



THE
UNFORTUNATE
TRAVELLER.

Or,
The life of Iacke Wilton.

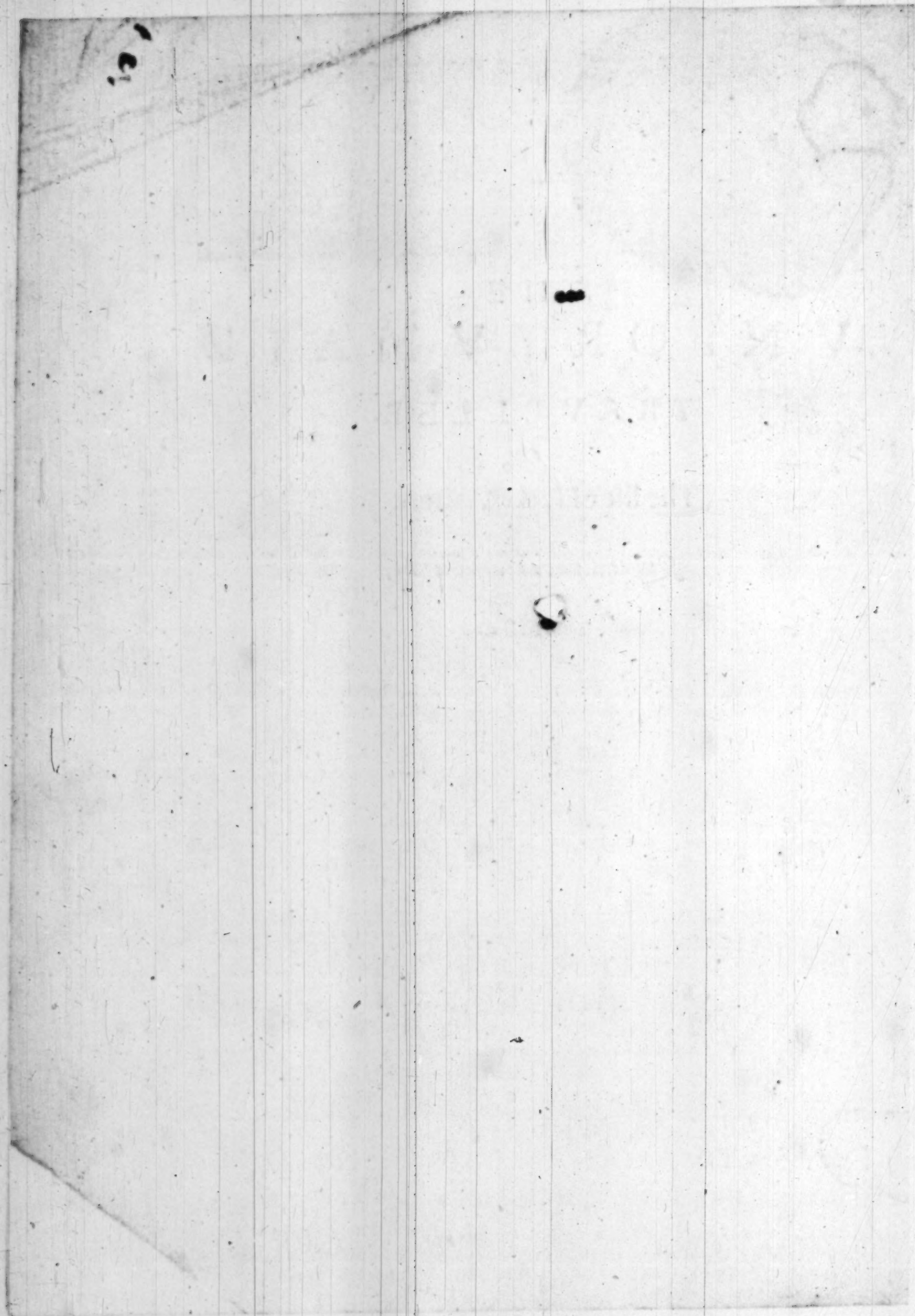
Qui audiunt audita dicunt.

Tho. Nashe.



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shop adjoining to the Exchange.

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*To the right Honorable Lord Henric Wriothesley,
Earle of South-hampton, and Baron
of Tichfeeld.*



Ngenuous honorable Lord, I know not what blinde custome methodicall antiquity hath thrust vpon vs, to dedicate such books as we publish, to one great man or other; In which respect, least anie man should challenge these my papers as goods vncustomd, and so extend vpon them as forfeite to contempt, to the scale of your excellent censure loe here I present them to bee seene and allowed. Prize them as high or as low as you list: if you set a nie price on them, I hold my labor well satisfide. Long haue I desired to approoue my wit vnto you. My reuerent duetifull thoughts (euen from their infancie) haue been retayners to your glorie. Now at last I haue enforced an opportunitie to plead my deuoted minde. All that in this phantasticall Treatise I can promise, is some reasonable conueyance of historie, & varietie of mirth. By diuers of my good frends haue I been dealt with to employ my dulpen in this kinde, it being a cleane different vaine from other my former courses of writing. How wel or ill I haue done in it, I am ignorant: (the eye that sees round about it selfe, sees not into it selfe): on'y your Honours applauding encouragement hath power to make mee arrogant. Incomprehensible is the heighth

The Epistle Dedicatorie.

of your spirit both in heroical resolution and matters of conceit. Vnrepuably perisheth that booke whatsoeuer to wast paper, which on the diamond rocke of your iudgement disasterly chanceth to be shipwrackt. A dere loue and cherisher you are, as well of the louers of Poets, as of Poets themselues. Amongst their sacred number I dare not ascribe my selfe, though now and then I speak English: that smal braine I haue, to no further vse I conuert, saue to be kinde to my frends, and fatall to my enemies. A new brain, a new wit, a new stile, a new soule will I get inee, to canonize your name to posteritie, it in this my first attempt I be not taxed of presumption. Of your gracious fauor I despaire not, for I am not altogether Fames out-cast. This handfull of leaues I offer to your view, to the leaues on trees I compare, which as they cannot grow of themselues except they haue some branches or boughes to cleaue too, & with whose iuice and sap they be euermore recreated & nourisht: so except these vnpolisht leaues of mine haue some braunch of Nobilitie whereon to depend and cleaue, and with the vigorous nutriment of whose authorized commendation they may be contiually fosterd and refresht, neuer wil they grow to the worlds good liking, but forthwith fade and die on the first houre of their birth. Your Lordship is the large spreading branch of renown, from whence these my idle leaues seeke to deriue their whole nourishing: it resteth you either scornfully shake them off, as worm-eaten & worthles, or in pity preserue them and cherish them, for some litle summer frute you hope to finde amongst them.

Your Honors in all humble seruice:

Tho: Nashe.

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To the Gentlemen Readers.

Gentlemen, in my absence (through the Printers oversight and my bad writing) in the leaues of C. and D. these errors are over-slipt :

C. pag. 2. lin. 33. for sweating *read* sneaking. Pag. 3. li. 1. for hogges *read* barres. lin. 7. for Calipsus, *read* Rhæsus. Pag. 4. lin. 34. for Liue *read* I liue. Pag. 5. li. 14. for vpon his *read* vpon him his. Pag. 7. lin. 13. for drild *read* dyu'd. lin. 22. for colour) *read* collar nor his hat-band).!

D. Pag. 1. lin. 2. for blacke *read* cape. lin. 5. for fastens *read* thirleth. lin. 7. for badge *read* budge. lin. 8. for shinne *read* chinne. lin. 11. for in this begun *read* thinking in. Pag. 3. lin. 33. for increased then, *read* inclosed them. Pag. 5. lin. 8. for threed button, *read* brest like a thred bottom. Pag. 8. lin. 3. for Esla *read* Ofsa. lin. 4. for dissolution *read* desolation. lin. 13. betweene also, *and* but *read* If you know Christianitie, you know the Farhers of the Church also. lin. 18. for quocunque *read* qua gente.

Other literall faults there are which I omit.

Yours T. N.



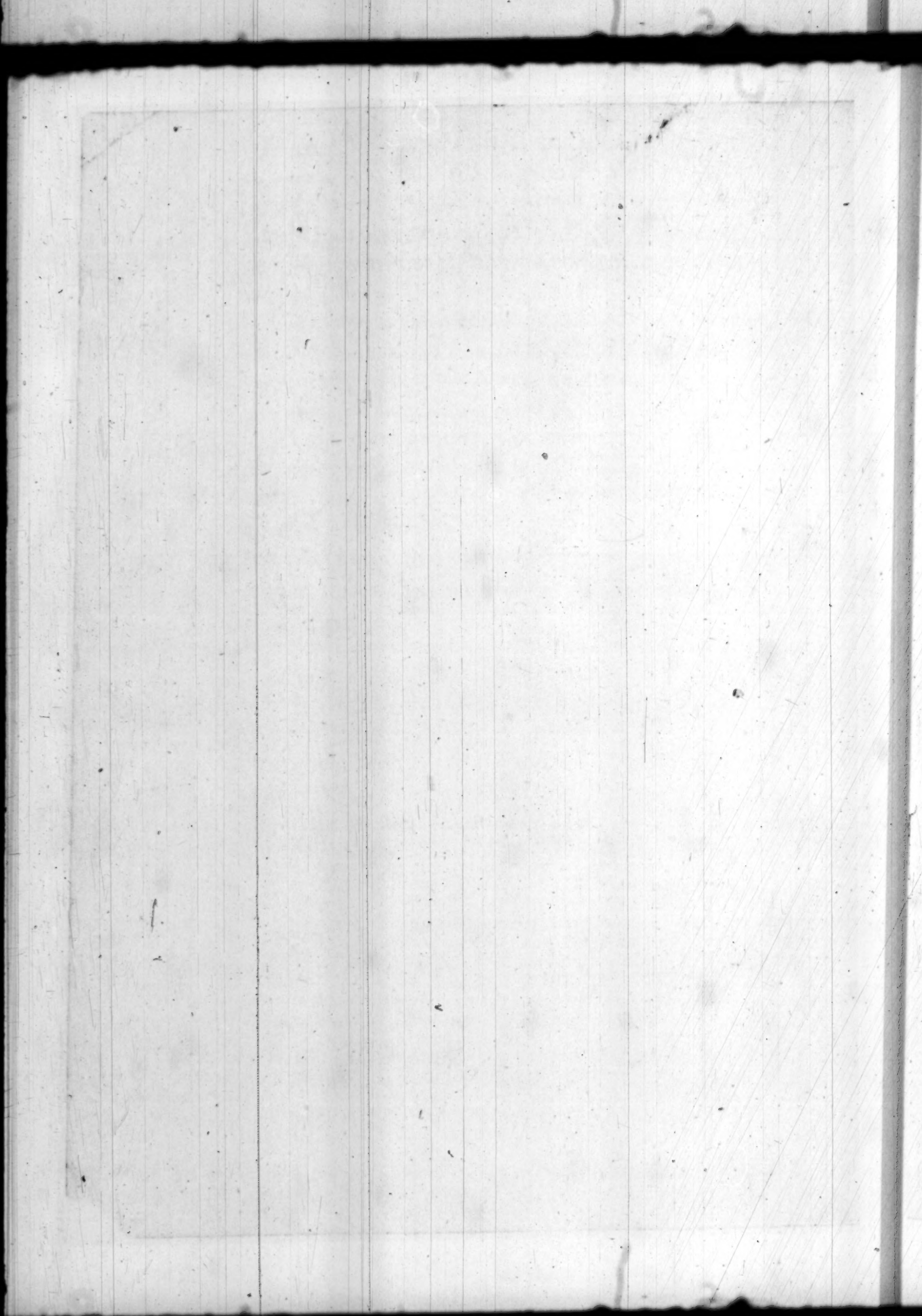
The Induction to the dapper Mounſier
Pages of the Court.



*Allant squires, haue amongst you : at mumm-
chance I meane not, for so I might chaunce
come to short commons, but at nouus, no-
ua, nouum, which is in English, newes of
the maker. A proper fellow Page of yours
called Iacke Wilton, by mee commends
him vnto you, and hath bequeathed forwaſt paper heere a-
mongſt you certaine pages of his misfortunes. In any caſe keep
them preciousſy as a Priuie token of his good will towards you.
If there be ſome better than other, he cranes you would honor
them in their death ſo much, as to drie and kinde Tobacco
with them : for a need hee permits you to wrap veluet pantofles
in them alſo, ſo they be not woe begone at the heeles, or weather-
beaten like a blacke head with graye haire, or mangie at the
toes like an ape about the mouth. But as you loue good fellowſhip
and ames ace, rather turne them to ſtop muſtard-pots, than the
Grocers ſhuld haue one patch of them to wrap mace in : a ſtrong
hot coſtly ſpice it is, which aboue all things hee hates. To anie
uſe about meate or drinke put them too and ſpare not, for they
cannot doo their Countrey better ſeruice. Printers are madde
whoreſons, allow them ſome of them for napkins. Joſt a little
nerer to the matter and the purpoſe. Memorandum, euerie
one of you after the peruſing of this Pamphlet, is to prouide him
a caſe of ponyards, that if you come in companie with any man
which*

The Induction to the Pages.

which shall dispraise it or speake against it, you may straight cry Sicreipondeo, and giue him the stockado. It stands not with your honors (I assure yee) to haue a Gentleman and a Page abused in his absence. Secondly, whereas you were wont to sweare men on a par tofle to bee true to your puissant order, you shall sweare them on nothing but this Chronicle of the King of Pages hence-forward. Thirldy, it shalbe lawfull for anie whatsoever to play with false dice in a corner on the coner of this foresaid Aets and monuments. None of the fraternitie of the mino-rites shall refuse it for a pawne in the times of famine and necessitie. Euery Stationers stall they passe by whether by day or by night they shall put off their hats too, and make a low leg, in regard their grand printed Capitano is there entcombd. It shalbe flat treason for any of this fore-mentioned catalogue of the point trussers, once to name him within fortie foote of an ale-house. Marry the taucerne is honorable. Many speciall graue articles more had I to giue you in charge, which your wisdomes waiting together at the bottome of the great Chamber staires, or sitting in a porch (your parliament house) may better consider of than I can deliuer: onely let this suffice for a tast to the text & a bit to pull on a good wit with, as a rasher on the coales is to pull on a cup of wine. Heigh passe, come aloft: euery man of you take your places, and heare Iacke Wilton tell his owne tale.





THE VN FORTVNATE TRAVELLER.



About that time that the terror of the world, and feauer quartan of the French, Henric the eight, (the onely true subiect of Chronicles) advanced his standard against the two hundred and fiftie towers of Turney and Turwin, and had the Emperour and all the nobility of Flanders, Holland, and Brabant as mercenarie attendants

on his full-sailed fortune, I Iacke Wilton, (a Gentleman at least) was a certaine kinde of an appendix or page, belonging or appertaining in or unto the confines of the English court, where what my credit was, a number of my creditors that I coosned can testifie, *Calum petimus stultitia*, which of vs all is not a sin-ner. Be it knowen to as many as will paie monie inough to peruse my storie, that I followed the campe or the court, or the court & the campe, when Turwin lost her maidenhead, & opened her gates to more than Iane Trosse did. There did I (soft let me drinke before I goe anie further) ratigne sole king of the cans and black iackes, prince of the pigmeis, countie pallaine of cleane strawe and prouant, and to conclude, Lord high regent of rashers of the coles and red herring cobs. *Paulo maiora canamus*: well, to the purpose. What stratagemicall actes

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and monuments do you thinke an ingenious infant of my age might enact? you will saie, it were sufficient if he flurre a dis, payne his master to the vtmost pennie, & minister the oath on the pantoffle arteficially. These are signes of good education, I must confesse, and arguments of In grace and vertue to proceed. Oh but Aliquid latet quod non patet, theres a farther path I must trace: examples confirme, list Lordings to my pord dinges. Whosoever is acquainted with the state of a campe, vnderstands that in it be many quarters, & yet not so many as on London bidge. In those quarters are many companies: Much companie, much knauerie, as true as that olde adage, Much curtesie, much subtiltie. Those companies, like a great deale of cozne, doe yeeld some chaffe, the cozne, are cozmozants, the chaffe are good fellows, which are quickly blowen to nothing, with bearing a light hart in a light purse. Amongst this chaffe was I winnowing my wits to liue merily, and by my troth so I did: the p:ince could but command men spend theyr bloud in his seruice, I coulde make them spend all the monie they had for my pleasure. But pauerty in the end parts frends, though I was p:ince of their purses, and erected of my birthright subiects, as much liquid allegiance as anie keisar in the world could do, yet where it is not to be had the king must loose his right, want cannot be withstood, men can doe no more than they can doe, what remained then, but the fores case must help, when the lions skin is out at the elbowes.

There was a Lord in the campe, let him be a Lord of misrule, if you wil, for he kept a plaine alehouse without welte or gard of anie Iuibush, and solde syder and cheere by pint and by pound to all that came, (at that verie name of syder, I can but sigh, there is so much of it in renish wine now a dayes.) Well, Tendit ad sydera virtus, theres great vertue belongs (I can tell you) to a cup of syder, and verie good men haue solde it, and at sea, it is Aqua coelestis, but thats neither beere nor there, if it had no other patrons but this peere of quart pots to authorize it, it were sufficient. This great Lord, this worthy Lord, this noble Lord, thought no scozne (Lord haue mercy vpon vs) to haue his great velvet breeches larded with the droppings of this daintie liquo, & yet he was an olde seruito, a canelier of

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an ancient house, as it might appeare by the armes of his ancestrie, drawn very amiably in chalke, on the inside of his tent doore.

He and no other was the man, I chose out to damne with a lewd moneyllesse deuice: for comming to him on a date, as he was counting his barrells, & setting the price in chalke on the head of euerie one of them, I did my dutie verie deuoutly, and tolde his alie honoꝝ, I had matters of some secrecie to impart vnto him, if it pleased him to grant me priuate audience. With me young Wilton, quoth he, marie and shalt: bzing vs a pint of syder of a fresh tap into the thre cups here, wash the pot, so into a backe roome he lead mee, where after hee had spit on his finger, and pickt off two or thre moats of his olde moth eaten velvet cap, and spunged and wong all the rumatike diuell from his ill fauoured Coates beard, he badde me declare my minde, and there vpon he dranke to me on the same. I bp with a long circumstance, alias, a cunning shift of the seuenteenes, & discourst vnto him what entire affection I had bozne him time out of mind, partly for the high discent and linage from whence he sprung, & partly for the tender care and prouident respect he had of poore soldiers, that whereas the basitie of that place (which affozded them no indifferent supplie of drinke or of victuals) might humble them to some extremity, and so weaken their hands, he boughsafed in his own person to be a victualer to the campe (a rare example of magnificence & honoꝝable curtesie) and diligently prouided, that without farre trauel, euery man might for his money haue syder and cheese his belly full, noꝝ did he sell his cheese by the way onely, or his syder by the great, but abast himselfe with his owne hands, to take a shoemakers knife, (a homely instrument for such a high personage to touch) and cut it out equally like a true iusticiarie, in little pennyworthes, that it woulde doo a man good for to looke vpon. So likewise of his syder, the poore man might haue his moderate draught of it (as there is a moderation in all things) as well for his doct or his dandip:at, as the rich man for his halfe soule or his venier. Not so much, quoth I, but this tapsters linnen apron, which you weare before you, to protect your apparell from the imperfections of the spigot, most amply becomis

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your lowly miude. I speake it with teares, too fewe such humble spirited noble men haue we, that will drinke in linen apzon. Why you are euerie childs felow, any man that comes vnder the name of a souldier and a good fellowe, you will sitte and beare companie to the last pot, yea, and you take in as good part the homely phrase of mine host heeres to you, as if one saluted you by all the titles of your baronie. These considerations, I saie, which the world suffers to slippe by in the channell of carelesnes, haue moued me in ardent zeale of your welfare, to fozeuarne you of some dangers that haue beset you & your barrele. At the name of dangers hee start vp, and bounst with his fist on the boord so hard, that his Tapster ouerhearing him, cried, anone anone sir, by and by, and came and made a low leg and askt him what he lackt. Hee was readie to haue striken his Tapster, soz interrupting him in attention of this his so much desired relation, but soz feare of displeasing me he moderated his furie, and onely sending him soz the other fresh pint, wold him looke to the barre, and come when hee is cald with a deuilles name. Well, at his earnest importunitie, after I had moistned my lips, to make my lie runne glib to his wourneis end, sozward I went as followeth. It chaunced me the other night, amongst other pages, to attend where the king with his Lords, and many chiefe leaders sate in counsel, there amongst sundrie serious matters that were debated, and intelligences from the enemy giuen vp, it was prinily informed (no villains to these private informers) that you, even you that I now speak to, had (I would I had no tongue to tell the rest, by this drinke it grieues mee so I am not able to repeate it.) Nowe was my drunken Lord redie to hang himself soz the end of the ful point, and ouer my necke he throwes himselfe verie lubberly, and intreated me as I was appoer young Gentleman, and ever lookt soz pleasure at his hands, soone to rid him out of this hell of suspense, & resolu him of the rest, then fell hee on his knees, wzong his handes, and I thinke en my conscience, wept out all the syder that he had dronke in a wake befoze, to moue me to haue pitie on him, he rose and put his rustie ring on my finger, gaue me his greasie purse with that single money that was in it, promised to make mee his heire, & a thousand moze fauours,

is

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if I would expire the miserie of his vnspcakable tormenting vncertaintie. I being by nature inclined to Mercie (so in deed I knew two or three good wenches of that name) had him harden his eares, & not make his eyes aboxtine besoze their time, and he should haue the inside of my heart turnd outward, heare such a tale as would tempt the vtmost strength of life to attend it, and not die in the midst of it. Why (quoth I) my selfe, that am but a poore chileish wellwiller of yours, with the verie thought, that a man of your desert and state, by a number of peasants and varlets should be so iniuriously abused in bugger mugger, haue wept al my brine vpward. The whele vnder our Citie bridge, carries not so much water ouer the city, as my braine hath welled forth gushing streames of sorow. I haue wept so immoderately and lauishly, that I thought verily my palat had bin turned to pissing conduit in London. Spies haue bin dronke, outragiously dronke, with giuing but ordinary entercourse through their sea-circled Islands to my distilling deccariment. What shal I saie: that which malice hath sayde is the meere cuerthow & murder of your daies. Change not your colour, none can stander a cleere conscience to it selfe, receiue all your fraught of misfortune in at once.

It is buzzed in the kings head that you are a secret friend to the enemy, & vnder pretence of getting a license to furnish the campe with syder and such like prouant, you haue furnisht the enemy, and in emptie barrells sent letters of discomeris, and cozne innumerable.

I might well haue left here, so by this time his white liner had mixt it selfe with the white of his rie, & both were turned vpluades, as if they had offered themselves a fayze white for death to shoute at. The troth was, I was verie loth mine hoste and I should parte to heauen with dry lips, wherefore the best means that I could imagine to wake him out of his trance, was to crie loude in his eare,ough host, what is to pay, will no man loke to the reckning heere, and in plaine veritie, it toke expected effect, so with the noise hee started and bustling, like a man that had bene scard with fyre out of his slepe, and ranne hastily to his Tapster, and all to belaboured him about the eares, so letting Gentlemen call so long and not looke in to

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them. Presently he remembred himselfe, and had like to haue fallen into his memento againe, but that I met him halfe waies, and askt his Lordship what he meant to slip his necke out of the collar so sodainly, and being reuiued, strike his taper so rashly.

Oh, quoth he, I am bought & solde for doing my Country such good service as I haue done. They are afraid of mee, because my good deedes haue brought me into such estimation with the communalty, I see, I see it is not for the lambe to lye with the wolfe.

The world is well amended, thought I, with your Sider-Ship, such another fortye yeeres nappes together as Epemenides had, would make you a perfect wise man. Answer me, quoth he, my wise young Wilton, is it true that I am thus vnderhand dead and buried by these bad tongues?

Nay, quoth I, you shall pardon me, for I haue spoken too much already, no definitive sentence of death shall march out of my wel meaning lips, they haue but lately suckt milke, and shall they so sodainly change theyr food and seeke after bloud?

Oh but, quoth he, a mans friend is his friend, fill the other pint Tapster, what sayd the king, did hee beleaue it when hee heard it, I pray thee say, I sweare to thee by my nobility, none in the worlde shall euer be made priuie, that I receiued anie light of this matter from thee.

That firme affiance, quoth I, had I in you before, or else I would neuer haue gone so farre ouer the shoos, to plucke you out of the mire. Not to make many wordes (since you will needs know) the kings saies flatly, you are a miser & a snudge, and he neuer hopt better of you. Nay then (quoth he) questionlesse some planet that loues not syder hath conspired against me. No, neuer, which is worse, the king hath vowed to giue Turwin one hot breakfast, onely with the bungs that hee will plucke out of your barrells. I cannot staie at this time to re- porte each circumstance that passed, but the only counsell that my long cherished kinde inclination can possibly contriue, is now in your olde daies to be liberall, such victuals or prouisi- on as you haue, presently distribute it frankly amongst poore souldiers, I would let them burst their bellies with syder, and bathe

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bathe in it, befoze I would runne into my pzinces ill opint-
on fo2 a whole sea of it. The hunter pursuing the beauer fo2
his stones, hee bites them off, and leanes them behinde fo2 him
to gather vp, whereby hee lynes quiet. If grieuie hunters and
hungry tel-tales pursue you, it is fo2 a little pelfe which you
haue, cast it behind you, neglect it, let them haue it, lest it becom
a further inconuenience. Credit my aduice, you shall finde it
p2opheticall, and thus I haue discharged the parte of a poore
friend. With some few like p2rases of ceremonie, your hono2s
suppliant, & so fo2th, and farewel my good youth, I thanke thee
and will remember thee, we parted.

But the next daie I thinke we had a dole of syder, syder in
boules, in scuppets, in helmets, & to conclude, if a man would
haue filld his bootes full, there hee might haue had it, p2ouant
thrust it selfe into poore souldiers pockets whether they would
o2 no. We made fine peals of shot into the towne together, of
nothing but spiggots and faussets of discarded emptie barrells:
euerie vnderfoote souldiour had a distenanted tunne, as Dioge-
nes had his tub to sleepe in. I my selfe got as many confiscated
Capsterns ap2ons, as made me a Tent, as bigge as any o2di-
narie commanders in the field. But in conclusion, my welbe-
loued Baron of double beere got him humbly on his mary-
bones to the king, and complained hee was olde and stricken in
yeres, and had nere an heire to cast at a dogge, wherefoze if it
might please his maiesty to take his lands into his hands, and
allowe him some reasonable pension to liue on, hee shoulde bee
meruailous wel pleased: as fo2 the warres, he was wearie of
them, and yet as long as highnes shoulde venture his owne
person, hee would not flinch a foot, but make his withered bo-
die a buckler, to beare off anie blow that shoulde be aduanced
agaynst him.

The king meruailing at this strange alteration of his
great marchant of syder, (fo2 so hee woulde often pleasantly
tearme him,) with a little further talke bolted out the whole
complotment. Then was I pittifully whipt fo2 my holy day
lie, although they made themselves merrie with it many a
faire winters evening after.

Yet notwithstanding his good asse-headed hono2 mine
host,

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host, perswaded in his former simple request to the king to accept of the surrender of his landes, and allowe him a head-manny & out-brother ship of zachet, which at length, through his vehement instancie tooke effect, and the king teastingly sayd, since he would needs haue it so, he would disfrain on part of his land for impost of syder, which hee was behinde hande with him, and neuer payd.

This was one of my famous atchieuements, inso much as I neuer light vpon the like famous foole, but I haue done a thousand better leassts if they had bin booke in order as they were begotten. It is pittie posteritie shoulde bee depriued of such precious recozdes, and yet there is no remedie, and yet there is to, for when all sayles, welfare a good memozie. Gentle readers (looke you be gentle now since I haue cald you so) as freely as my knaerie was mine owne, it shall be yours to vse in the way of honestie.

Even in this expedition of Turwin (for the king stode not long thunning of buttons there) it happened me fall out (I would it had fallen out otherwise for his sake) with an vgly mechanical Captaine. You must thinke in an armie, where tronchiōs are in their state house, it is a flat stab once to name a Captaine without cappe in hand. Well, suppose hee was a Captaine, & had nere a good cap of his owne, but I was faine to lend him one of my Lords cast velvet caps, and a weather-beaten feather, wherewith he threathed his souldiers a farre off, as Iupiter is sayde, with the shaking of his haire to make beauen and earth to quake: suppose out of the paringes of a paire of false dice, I apparellled both him and my selfe many a time and oft: and surely not to slander the deuill, if anie man euer deserued the golden dice, the king of the Barthians sent to Demetrius it was I, I had the right vaine of sucking vp a die twixt the dintes of my fingers, not a creulse in my hande but coulde swallowe a quater trey for a neede: in the line of life many a dead lister dyd there lurke, but it was nothing towards the maintenance of a family. This Monsieur Capitano ate vp the creame of my earnings, and Cred emibi res est ingeniosa dare, any man is a fine fellow as long as he hath anie monie in his purse. That monie is like the marigolde, which

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Which opens and shuts with the Sonne, if fortune smileth, as one be in fauour, it sloweth: if the euening of age comes on, as he falleth into disgrace, it sadeth and is not to be found. I was my crafts master though I was but yong, and could as some decline *Nominatio hic asinus*, as a greater clarke, wherefore I thought it not conuenient my soldado should haue my purse anie longer for his drumme to play vpon, but I woulde giue him Iacks drummes entertainment, and send him packing. This was my plot, I knewe a peece of seruice of intelligence, which was presently to be done, that required a man with all his five senses to effect it, and would ouerthrow anie foole that should undertake it, to this seruice did I animate and egge my forsayd colles and charges, alias, senioz belnet-cappe, whose head was not encombered with too much forcast, and coming to him in his cabbin about dinner time, where I found him verie deuoutly paring of his nailes for want of other repast, I entertained him with this solenne oration.

Captaine, you perceiue how nere both of vs are diuyn, the dice of late are growen as melancholy as a dog, high men and low men both prosper alike, langrets, Tullams, and all the whole fellowshippe of them will not affoord a man his dinner, some other means must be inuented to prevent imminent extremite. My state, you are not ignozant, depends on trencher seruice, your aduancement must be derined from the balour of your arme. In the delays of siege, desert hardly gets a daye of bearing, tis golws must direct and guns enact all the wars that is to be made against walls. Resteth no waie for you to climbe sodainly, but by doing some strange stratageme, that the like hath not bene heard of heretofore, and fitly at this instant occasion is ministred.

There is a seate the king is desirous to haue wrought on some great man of the enemies side, marie it requireth not so much resolution as discretion to bring it to passe, and yet resolution enough shalbe showen in it to, being so full of hazardous ieopardy as it is, harke in your eare, thus it is. Without moze drumbling or pausing, if you will undertake it, and worke it thorough stich (as you may ere the king hath determined which waie to goe about it) I warrant you are made while you liue,

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you neede not care which waie your staffe falles, if it proue not so, then cut off my head.

Oh my auditors, had you seene him how he stretcht out his lims, scratcht his scald elbowes at this speech, how hee set his cap ouer his ele browes like a politician, and then folded his armes one in another, & nodded with the head, as who should aie, let the french beware, for they shall finde me a dentill, if I say, you had seen but halfe the actions that he vied of shucking vp his shoulders, smiling scornfully, playing with his fingers on his buttons, and biting the lip, you wold haue laught your face and your knees together. The yron being hot, I thought to lay on loade, for in anie case I wold not haue his humour coole. As befoze I layd open vnto him the bydesse summe of the service, so now I began to vze the honozablenesse of it, and what a rare thing it was to be a right politician, how much es- teemd of kings and princes, and how diuerse of meane paren- tage haue come to be monarches by it. When I discoursed of the qualities and properties of him in enerie respect, how lyke the wolfe he must drawe the breath from a man befoze he be seene, how lyke a hare he must sleepe with his eyes open, how as the Eagle in flying casts dust in the eyes of crows & other foules, for to blind them, so he must cast dust in the eyes of his enemies, delude their sight by one meanes or other, & they diue not into his subtilties: how he must be familiar with all & trust none, drinke carouse, and lecher with him out of whom he hopes to wyning anie matter, sweare and forswear, rather than be sus- pected, and in a word, haue the art of dissembling at his fingers ends as perfect as anie courtier.

Perhaps (quoth I) you may haue some few greasse canel- liers that will seeke to dissuade you from it, and they will not sticke to stand on theyr three halfe pennie honour, swearing and staring that a man were better be an hangman than an intelligencer, and call him a sweating ransopper, a scraping hedgecreeper, and a piperly pickthauke, but you must not bee discouraged by theyr talke, for the most part of those beggerly condemners of wit, are huge burlybond butchers like Ajax, good for nothing but to strike right downe blowes on a wedge with a cleauing battle, or stande hammering all daie vpon hogges

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hogges of yron. The whelpes of a Beare neuer grow but sleeping, and these beare-wards hauing big limmes shall be preferred though they doe nothing. You haue read stories, (as he be sware he neuer lookt in booke in his life) how many of the Romane worthies were there that haue gone as spies into the enemies campe? Vlysses, Nestor, Diomed, went as spies together in the night into the tentes of Caliphus, and intercepted Dolon the spie of the Troians: neuer anie discredited the trade of intelligencers but Iudas, & he hanged himselfe. Danger will put wit into anie man. Architas made a wooden dove to flie: by which proportion I see no reason that the verrest blocke in the world should despaze of anie thing. Though nature be contrarie inclined, it may be altered, yet vsually those whome she denies her ordinarie giftes in one thing, she doubles them in another. That which the asse wants in wit, he hath in honestie, who euer sawe him kicke or winch, or vse anie subtill trickes, though he liue an hundred yeres you shall neuer heare that he breakes pasture. Amongest men, he that hath not a good wit, lightly hath a good yron memoire, and he that hath neither of both, hath some bones to carrie burthens. Blinde men haue better noses than other men: the bulls hoznes serue him as well as hands to fight withall: the lions pawes are as good to him as a pol-axe, to knock downe anie that resists him: so the Bores tusshes serue him in better stead than a sword and buckler, what need the snail care for eyes, when he feels the waie with his two hoznes, as well as if hee were as sharpe sighted as a decypherer. There is a fish that hauing no wings, supportes her selfe in the ayre with her finnes. Admit that you had neither wit nor capacitie, as sure in my iudgement there is none equall vnto you in idiotisme, yet if you haue simplicitie and secrecie, serpents themselves will thinke you a serpent, for what serpent is there but hydeeth his sting: and yet whatsoener hee wanting, a good plausible alluring tong in such a man of employment can hardly be spared, which as the forenamed serpent, with his winding taylor fetcheth in those that come nere him: so with a rauishing tale, it gathers all mens heartes vnto him, which if hee haue not, let him neuer looke to ingender by the mouth, as rauens and doves doe,

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that is, mount o2 be great by vndermining. Sir, I am after-
taped that all these imperfections I speake off, in you haue
they2 naturall resistance, I see in your face, that you were bo2ne
with the swallow, to feede flying, to get much treasure and ho-
nour by trauell. None so fit as you fo2 so important an enter-
pise, our vulgar reputed politicians are but flies swimming
on the streame of subtiltie superficially in comparison of your
singularitie. they2 blind narrow eyes cannot pearce into the
profundities of hypocrisie, you alone with Palamed, can pry in-
to Vlysses madde counterfeting, you can discern Achilles from
a chamber maide, though he be deckt with his spindle and di-
stasse: as Ioue dining with Licaon could not be beguiled with
humane flesh dyest like meate, so no humane vaine may goe
beyond you, none beguile you, you gull all, all feare you, lone
you, floupe to you. Wherefoze good sir, be rulde by mee, floupe
your fortune so lowe, as to bequeath your selfe wholly to this
businesse.

This siluer sounding tale made such sugred harmonie in
his eares, that with the sweete meditation, what a more than
myraculous politician he should be, and what kingly promoti-
on should come tumbling on him thereby, he could haue found
in his heart to haue packt by his pipes & to haue gone to hea-
uen without a baite, yea, hee was more inflamed and rauisht
with it. than a young man called Taurimontanus was with the
Phrygian melodie, who was so incensed and fyled therewith,
that he would needes runne presently vpon it, and set a curtis-
ans house on fire that had angered him.

No remedie there was but I must helpe to furnish him
with monie, I did so, as who wil not make his enemy a b2idge
of golde to lie by. Werie earnestly he coniurd me to make no
man liuing priuie to his departure in regard of his place and
charge, and on his honour assured mee his returne should be
verie short and successfull, I, I, shorter by the necke, thought I,
in the meane time let this be thy posse, Liue in hope to scape the
rope.

Gone he is, God send him good shipping to Whapping, & by
this time, if you will, let him bee a pittifull pooze fellowe, and
vndone fo2 euer, fo2 mine owne part, if he had bin mine owne
b2other

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brother, I coulde haue done no more for him than I did, for straight after his backe was turnd, I went in all loue & kindnesse to the Sparshall generall of the field, & certefied him that such a man was lately fled to the enemye, and gotte his place bedgd for another immediatly. What became of him after you shall heare. To the enemye he went and offered his service, railing egregiously on the king of England, he swore, as he was a Gentleman and a souldier, hee would bee reuenged on him, and let but the king of France follow his counsell, hee woulde dzine him from Turwin wals yctere ten dayes to an end. All these were good humours, but the tragedie followeth. The French king hearing of such a prating fellow that was come, was desirous to see him, but yet he feared treason, wherfore he wold one of his minions to take vpon his person, and he would stand by as a priuate man whilst hee was trannied. Why should I vse any idle delays? In was Captaine Cogges wounds brought, after he was thoroughly searched, not a loue in his doublet was let passe, but was askt Queucla, and chargd to stand in the kings name, the mouldes of his buttons they turnd out, to see if they were not bullettes couered ouer with chread, the cōpce in his deuills breeches (for they were then in fashion) they sayd playnly was a case for a pistoll, if hee had had euer a hobnail in his shooes it had hangde him, & he shuld neuer haue knowen who had harmed him, but as lucke was, he had not a mite of any mettall about him, he took part with none of the foure ages, neither the golden age, the siluer age, the brassen nor the yron age, onely his purse was aged in emptinesse, and I thinke verily a puritane, for it kept it selfe from any pollution of crosses. Standing befoze the supposed king, he was askt what he was, and wherfore he came. To the which in a glorious bragging humour he answered, that hee was a gentleman, a captaine commander, a chiefe leader, that came a way from the king of England vppon discontentment. Questiond particular of the cause of his discontentment, hee had not a word to blesse himself with, yet faine he would haue patcht out a polt-fote tale, but (God he knowes) it had not one true legge to stand on. Then began he to smell on the villaine so rammishly, that none there but was ready to rent him in pieces,

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pieces, yet the minion king kept in his cholar, and propounded vnto him farther, what of the king of Englands secrets (so advantageous) he was priute to, as might remoue him from the siege of Turwin in three daies. Hee sayde diuerse, diuerse matters, which askt longer conference, but in good honestie they were lies, which he had not yet stamp. Hereat the true king slept forth, and commanded to lay handes on the lozell, and that he should be tortured to confesse the truth, for he was a spie and nothing else.

He no sooner sawe the wheele and the torments set befoze him, but he cride out like a rascall, and sayde hee was a poore Captaine in the English camp, suborned by one Iacke Wilton (a noble mans page) and no other, to come and kill the French king in a brauery and returne, and that he had no other intention in the world.

This confession could not choose but moue them all to laughter, in that he made it as light a matter to kill their king and come backe, as to goe to Irlington and eate a messe of creame, and come home againe, nay, and besides hee protested that he had no other intention, as if that were not inough to hang him.

Adam neuer fell till God made foles, all this coulde not keepe his ioyntes from ransacking on the wheele, for they vowed either to make him a confessor, or a martir in a trice. When still he sung all one song, they tolde the king he was a foole, and some shewd head had knauishly wrought on him, wherefoze it should stand with his honour to whip him out of the campe and send him home. That perswasion tooke place, and soundly was he lacht out of theyr liberties, and sent home by a Herald with this message, that so the king his master hoped to whip home all the English fooles verie shortly: answer was returned, that that shortlye, was a long lie, and they were shewd fooles that shoulde dye the French man out of his kingdome, and make him glad with Corinthian Dionisius to play the schoole-master.

The Herald being dismiss, our afflicted intelligencer was cald coram nobis, how he spedde, iudge you, but something hee was aduinged to. The sparowe for his lecherie liueth but a yere.

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Forre, he for his trecherie was turnd on the toe, Plura dolor prohibet.

Here let me triumph a while, and ruminare a line or two on the excellence of my wit, but I will not breathe neither till I have disfraughted all my knauerie.

Another Switzer Captaine that was farre gone for want of the wench, I lead astrate most notoziously, for he being a monstrous bntthist of battle axes (as one that cared not in his anger to bid die out scuttels to fine score of them) and a notable emboweller of quart pots, I came disguised vnto him in the forme of a halfe a crowne wench, my gowne and attire according to the custome the in request. I wis I had my curtesies in cue or in quart pot rather, for they dzils into the very entrailles of the dust, and I simpered with my countenance lyke a porredge pot on the fire when it first begins to seeth. The sobrietie of the circumstance is, that after he had courted me and all, and giuen me the earnest pennie of impietie, some fire crownes at the least for an antipast to iniquitie, I fained an impregnable excuse to be gone, and neuer came at him after.

Yet left I not here, but committed a little more scutcherie. A companie of coytrell clarkes (who were in band with sathan, and not of anie souldiers colour) pinchd a number of god mindes to Godward of theyr pronant. They would not let a dram of dead pay overslip them, they would not lend a groat of the weeke to come, to him that had spent his money before this weeke was done. They out-faced the greatest and most magnanimous seruitours in their sincere and euigraphicall cleane shirts and cuffes. A lowle that was anie Gentlemans companion they thought scozne of, their mere bitten bearded must in a deuils name be bewed euerie daie with rose water, hogges could haue nere a bayze on theyr backs, for making them rabling brushes to rouse theyr crab lice. They would in no wise permitte that the moates in the sunne-beames should be full mouthed beholders of they cleane phinisse apparell, theyr shooes shined as bright as a like-stone. theyr handes troubled and soyled more water with washing, than the camell doth, that nere dzinkes till the whole streame be troubled. Summarily, neuer anie were so fantastical the one

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halfe as they. My masters you may conceiue of me what you list, but I thinke confidently I was ordained Gods scourge from aboue for thei daintie finicalitie. The houre of thei punishment could no longer be proroged, but vengeance must haue at them at al a ventures. So it was, that the most of these aboue named goosenuil byaccabadocheos were mere cowards and cruenes, and durst not so much as throw a pen-full of inke into the enemies face, if proofe were made, wherefore on the experience of their pusellanimities I thought to raise the foundation of my roguerie. What did I now but one daie made a false alarm in the quarter where they laie, to trie how they would stand to thei tackling, and with a pittifull out-cry warned them to flie, for there was treason a foot, they were inuironed and beset. Upon the first watch worde of treason that was giuen, I thinke they betooke them to thei heeles verie stoutly, left thei penne and inke-boznes and papers behinde them for spoile, resigned their deskies, with the mony that was in them to the mercie of the vanquisher, and in fine, left mee & my fellowes (their fowle-catchers) Lords of the field: how wee dealt with them, their disburdened deskies canne best tell, but this I am assured, we fared the better for it a fortnight of fasting dayes after. I must not place a volume in the precincts of a pamphlet, sleepe an houre or two, and dreame that Turney and Turwin is wonne, that the king is shipt againe into England, and that I am close at harde meate at Windsor or at Hampton court. What will you in your indifferent opinions allow me for my trauell, no more seigniorie ouer the Dages than I had before? yes, whether you will parte with so much probable friendly suppose or no, I leaue it in spite of your heartes. For your instruction and godly consolation, bee informed, that at that time I was no common squire, no vnder troden torch-bearer, I had my feather in my cap as big as a flag in the fore-top, my French doublet gelte in the belly as though (lyke a pig ready to be spitted) all my guts had bene pluckt out, a paire of side panted hose that hung down like two scales filled with Holland chaces, my long stock that sate close to my docke, and smothered not a scab or a lecherous hairie sinew on the calfe of my legge, my rapier pendant like a round sticke

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Sticke fastned in the tacklings for skippers the better to climbe by, my blacke cloake of blacke cloth, ouer-spreading my backe lyke a thorbacke, or an Elephantes eare, that hanges on his shoulders lyke a countrie huswifes baskin, which shee fastens her spindle on, and in consummation of my curiositie, my handes without gloues, all a moze french, and a blacke badge edging of a beard on the vpper lip, & the like sable anglet of excrements in the first rising of the ankle of my shinne. I was the first that brought in the order of passing into the court which I deriued from the common word Qui passa, and the heralds phrase of armes Passant, in this begun sincerity, hee was not a Gentleman, nor his armes currant, who was not first past by the pages. If anie pzentise or other came into the court that was not a Gentleman, I thought it was an indignitie to the prebeminence of the court to include such a one, and could not be salud except we gaue him armes Passant, to make him a Gentleman. Besides, in Spaine, none compasse anie farre wate but he must be examined what he is, & giue thre pence for his passe. In which regard it was considered of by the common table of the cupbearers, what a perilsome thing it was to let anie stranger or out-dweller appzoch so nere the precincts of the Pzince, as the great chamber, without examining what he was, and giuing him his passe, wherevppon we established the lyke order, but tooke no monie of them as they did, onelie for a signe that he had not past our hands vnexamined, wee set a red marke on either of his eares, and so let him walke as authenticall. I must not discouer what vngodly dealing we had with the blacke iackes, or how oft I was crowned king of the dzonkards with a court cuppe, let mee quietly descend to the waining of my youthfull dayes, and tell a little of the sweating sicknesse, that made me in a cold sweate take my heeles and runne out of England.

This sweating sicknesse, was a disease that a man then might catch and neuer goe to a hot-house. Many masters desire to haue such seruants as would worke till they swate againe, but in those dayes he that sweat neuer wrought againe. What Scripture then was not thought so necessarie, which sayes, Earns thy liuing with the sweat of thy browes, for then
D they

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they earnd their dying with the sweat of their browes. It was enough if a fat man did but trusse his points, to turne him ouer the pearch: mother Cornelius tub why it was lyke bell, he that came into it, neuer came out of it. Cookes that stonde continually basting their faces befoze the fire, were nowe all cashierd with this sweat into kitchen-stuffe: they had sell in to the kings handes for want of one of the trade to vpholde it. Felt-makers and furriers, what the one with the hot steame of their wooll new taken out of the pan, and the other with the contagious heate of their slaughter budge and conny-skins, died moze thicke than of the pestilence: I haue seene an olde woman at that season hauing thre chins, wipe them all away one after another, as they melted to water, and left her selfe nothing of a mouth but an vpper chap. Loke how in May or the heat of Summer we lay butter in water for feare it shuld melte awaie, so then were men faine to wet their clothes in water as Diers doe, and hide themselves in welles from the heate of the Sunne.

Then happie was he that was an asse, for nothing wyl kill an asse but colde, and none dide but with extreame heate. The fishes called Sea-starrs, that burne one another by excessive heate, were not so contagious as one man that had the sweate was to another. Parsons paid nothing for haire to mix their lime, nor glouers to stuffe their balls with, for then they had it for nothing, it dropt off mens heads and beards faster than anie Barber could shauie it. If haire breeches had then bene in fashion, what a fine world had it bene for Taylers, and so it was a fine world for Tailers neuerthelesse, for hee that could make a garment sleightest and thinnest, carried it awaie, Cutters I can tell you, then stood vpon it, to haue their trade one of the twelue Companies, for who was it then that would not haue his doublet cut to the skin, and his shirt cut into it to, to make it moze colde, It was as much as a mans life was woorth, once to name a freeze ierken, it was treason for a fat grosse man to come within fve miles of the court, I heard where they dide vp all in one family, and not a mothers childe escapt, insomuch as they had but an Irish rug lockt vp in a presse, and not laide vpon anie bedde neither, if those that
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were sicke of this maladie slept on it; they neuer wakt moze. Phisitions with their Amples, in this case were simple fellows, and knew not which way to bestir them. Galen might goe shew the gander so; anie good he could doe, his secretaries had so long called him diuine, that now he had lost all his vertue vpon earth. Hippocrates might well helpe Almanack makers, but here he had not a woꝛde to saie, a man might sooner catch the sweate with plodding ouer him to no end, than cure the sweat with any of his impotent principles. Paracelsus with his spirit of the butterie, and his spirits of minerals, could not so much as say, God amend him, to the matter. Plus erat in artifice quam arte, there was moze infection in the phisition himselfe than his arte could cure. This mortallitie first began amongst olde men, so; they taking a pride to haue their breasts loose basted with tedious beards, kept their houses so hot with these hairy excrements, that not so much but their very weals sweat out salt Peter, with the smothering perplexitie, nay a number of them had meruailous hot breaths, which sticking in the briers of their bushie beards, could not chuse, but (as close aire long imprisoned) engender corruption. Wiser was our brother Bankes of these latter daies, who made his iugling horse a cut, so; feare if at anie time hee should foist, the Linke sticking in his thicke bushie taile might be noisome to his auditors. Should I tell you how many pursuants with red noses, and sargeants with precious faces shynke away in this sweat, you would not belæue me. Euen as the Salamander with his very sight blasteth apples on the trees, so a pursuant or a sargeant at this present, with the verie reflere of his fire facias, was able to spoile a man a farre of. In some places of the woꝛld there is no shadow of the sunne, Diebus illis if it had bene so in England, the generation of Brute had died all and some. To knit vp this description in a purinet, so feruent and ieczching was the burning aire which increased then, that the most blessed man then alive, would haue thought that God had done fairely by him if he had turnde him to a goat, so; goates take breath not at the mouth or nose only, but at y eares also.

Take breath how they would, I volud to tarrie no longer amongst them. As at Turwin I was a demie souldier in

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left, so now I became a martialist in earnest.ouer sea with my implements I got me, where hearing the king of France and the Swizers were together by the ears, I made towards them as fast as I could, thinking to thrust my selfe into that faction that was strongest. It was my good lucke or my ill, I know not which, to come iust to y fighting of the battel, where I sawe a wonderfull spectacle of blood shed on both sides, here the brutish Swizers wallowing in their gore, like an oxe in his dung, there the sprightly French sprawling and turning on the slayned grasse, like a roach newe taken out of the streame, all the ground was strewed as thicke with battle axes, as the carpenters yard with chips. The plaine appeared like a quagmire, overspread as it was with trampled dead bodies. In one place might you beholde a heape of dead murdered men ouerwhelmed with a falling steed, in stead of a tombe stone, in another place a bundle of bodies fettered together in theyr owne bowels, and as the tyrant Romane Emperours used to tie condemned liuing caitifes face to face to dead cozles, so were the halfe liuing here mixt with squeazed carcases long putrified. Anie man might giue armes that was an acto; in that battell, so; there were moze armes and legs scattered in the field that daie, than will be gathered vp till dooms daie, the French king himselfe in this conflict was much distressed, the bzaines of his owne men sprinkled in his face, thrice was his courser slaine vnder him, and thrice was he strucke on the breast with a spear, but in the end, by the helpe of the Venetians, the Heluesians or Swizers were subdued, and he crowned victo;, a peace concluded, and the cittie of Pilatn surrendered vnto him, as a pledge of reconciliation. That warre thus blown ouer, and the seuerall bands dissolved, like a crow that still folloves alse where there is carrion, I flew me ouer to Munster in Germanie, which an Anabaptistcall brother named Iohn Leiden kepte at that instant against the Empero; and the Duke of Saxonie. Here I was in good hope to set vp my staffe so; some reasonable time, deeming that no Citie would dzine it to a siege except they were able to holde out, and pretily well had these Munsterians held out, so; they kept the Emperour and the Duke of Saxonie sound plaie so;

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the space of a yere, and longer wold hane done, but that damne
famine came amongst them, wherebpon they were sozt by
messengers to agree vpon a daie of fight, when accordig to
theyr anabaptistcally error they might be all new christened
in theyr owne blood.

That daie come, flourishing entered Iohn Leiden the bet-
cher into the field, with a scarfe made of liss, like a bow-case,
a crosse on his threed button, a round twilted Tailers cushion
buckled lyke a tancard bearers deuice to his shoulders for a
target, the pike whereof was a packe needle, a tough prentises
club for his speare, a great bzeuers cotw on his back for a coz-
let, and on his head for a helmet a huge high shoo with the bot-
tome turnd vppward, embossed as full of hobnails as euer it
might sticke, his men were all base handie craftes, as coblers,
and carriers, and tinkers, whereof some had barres of yron,
some hatchets, some cole staues, some dung forks some spades
some mattocks, some wood kniues, some addises for theyr
weapons, he that was best prouided, had but a pce of a rustie
browne bill brauely fringed with cobwebbes to fight for him:
perchance here and there you might see a felow that had a can-
ker eaten scul on his head, which serued him and his ancestoers
for a chamber pot two hundred yeres, and another that had
bent a couple of yron dzypping pans armour-wise, to fence his
backe and his belly, another that had thrust a payze of dzy olde
botes as a breast plate before his belly of his doublet, because
he would not be dangerously hurt: another that had twilted
all his trocke full of counters, thinking if the enemy shoulde
take him, he would mistake them for golde, and so save his life
for his money. Very deuout asses they were, for all they were
so dunticallly set forth, & such as thought they knew as much
of Gods minde as richer men, why inspiration was their or-
dinarie familiar, and buzde in theyr eares like a Bee in a bors
euerie houre what newes from heauen, hell, and the lande of
whipperginnie, displease them who durst, hee shoulde haue his
mittimus to damnation ex tempore, they woulde haunt there
was not a pease difference twixt them and the Apostles, they
were as poores as they, of as base trades as they, and no more
inspired than they, and with God there is no respect of persons,

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onely herein may seeme some little diuersitie to lurke, that Peter wore a sword, and they count it flat bel fire for anie man to weare a dagger, nay so grounded and grauelled were they in this opinion, that now when they should come to battel, there were a one of them wold bring a blade (no not an onion blade) about him, to die for it. It was not lawfull sayde they, for anie man to draw the sword but the magistrate, and in fidelitie, (which I had welnigh forgot) Iacke Leiden theyr magistrate had the image or likenesse of a peece of a rustie sword like a lusty lad by his side, now I remember me, it was but a foile neither, and he wore it, to shew that he should haue the foile of his enemies, which might haue bin an oracle for his two-hande interpretation. Quid plura, his battell is pitcht, by pitcht, I do not meane set in order, for that was far from their order, onely as sailers do pitch their apparell, to make it storme-proofe, so had most of them pitcht their patcht clothes, to make them impearceable. A nearer way than to be at the charges of armour by halfe: and in another sort hee might bee sayde to haue pitcht his field, for he had pitcht or set vp his rest whither to flie if they were discomfited. Peace, peace there in the belfrie, seruice begins, vpon their knees befoze they ioyne, fals Iohn Leiden and his fraternitie berie deuoutly, they pray, they boule, they expostulate with God to grant them victorie, and vse such vnspeakable vehemence, a man wold thinke them the onely well bent men vnder heauen, wherein let mee dilate a little more grauely than the nature of this historie requires, or will be expected of so young a practitioner in diuinitie: that not those that intermissiuely crie, Lord open vnto vs, Lord open vnto vs, enter first into the kingdome of heauen, that not the greatest professors haue the greatest portion in grace, that all is not golde that glitters. When Christ sayd, the kingdome of heauen must suffer violence, hee meant not the violence of long babling prayers to no purpose, nor the violence of tedious inuective sermons without wit, but the violence of faith, the violence of good works, the violence of patient suffering. The ignorant arise and snatch the kingdome of heauen to themselves with greedines, when we with all our learning sinke downe into hell. Where did Peter and Iohn in the third of the Acts,

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Acts, finde the lame cripple but in the gate of the temple called beautifull, in the beautifullest gates of our temple, in the fore-front of professors, are many lame cripples, lame in lyfe, lame in good woꝝkes, lame in euerie thing, yet will they alwayes sit at the gates of the temple, none be moꝛe foꝛwarde than they to enter into matters of refoꝛmation, yet none moꝛe behinde hand to entee into the true temple of the Loꝝd by the gates of good life. You may obiekt, that those which I speak against, are moꝛe diligent in reading the scriptures, moꝛe careful to resort vnto sermons, moꝛe sober in their looks and modest in their attire than anie else: but I pꝛaie you let me answer you. Doth not Chꝛist saie, that befoꝛe the latter daie the Sunne shall be turned into darknes, & the Moone into blood, whereof what may the meaning be, but that the glorious sun of the gospell shall be eclipsed with the dim cloude of dissimulation, that that which is the brightest planet of saluation, shall be a meanes of error and darknes: and the moone shall be turned into blood, those that shine fairest, make the simplest shew, some most to fauour religion, shall rent out the bowels of the Church, be turned into blood, and all this shall come to passe, befoꝛe the notable daie of the Loꝝd, whereof this age is the eue. Let me vse a moꝛe familiar example since the heate of a great number hath outraged so excessively. Did not the deuill leade Chꝛist to the pinnacle oꝛ highest part of the temple to tempt him, if he lead Chꝛist, he wil leade a whole armie of hypocrites to the toppe oꝛ highest part of the temple, the highest step of religion and holines, to seduce them and subuert them. I say vnto you that which this our tempted sauiour with many other woꝛds besought his disciples, saue your selues from this froward generation. Verily, verily the seruaunt is not greater than his master: verily, verily, sinful men are not holier than holy Iesus their maker. What holy Iesus againe repeats this holy sentence, Remember the woꝛdes I sayde vnto you, the seruaunt is not holier oꝛ greater than his master, as if he should say, remem' er then, imprint in your memorie your pꝛide and singularitie will make you foꝛget them, the effectes of them many yeeres hence will come to passe. Whosoener will seeke to saue his soule shall lose it, whosoener takes by head,

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head-long meanes to enter into heauen, & disanull Gods ordinance, shal with þ gyants that thought to scale heauen in contempt of Iupiter, be ouerwhelmed with mount Atlas & Pelion, & dwel with the deuill in eternal dissolution. Though the high priests office was expired, when Paul said vnto one of the, God rebuke thee thou painted sepulchre, yet when a slanderer by reproued him saying, Reuilest thou the high priest? he repented & askt forgiveness. That which I suppose I doe not grant, the lawfulness of the authoritie they oppose themselves agaynst, is sufficiently proued, farre be it my vnder-age argumentes should intrude themselves as a greene weake prop to support so high a building, let it suffice, if you knowe Christ, you know his father also, but a greates number of you with Philip haue bene long with Christ, and haue not knowen him, haue long professed your selues Christians, and not knowen his true ministers, you follow the French and Scotish fashion and faction, and in all pointes are lyke the Swizers, Qui quærunt cum quocunque cadunt, that seeke with what nation they may first miscarrie.

In the dayes of Nero there was an odde fellowe that had found out an exquisite waie to make glasse as hammer pꝛoue as golde: shall I saie, that the like experiment he made vpon glasse, we haue practised on the Gospell: I, confidently will I, we haue found out a right to hammer it to anie heresie whatsoever, but those furnaces of falsehood and hammer heads of heresie must be dissolved and broken as his was, or els I feare me the false glittering glasse of innoation will bee better esteemed of than the ancient gold of the gospell. The fault of faults is this, that your dead bozne faith is begotten by to too infant fathers. Cato one of the wisest men Romane histories canonized, was not bozne till his father was foure score yeres olde, none can be a perfect father of faith and beget men aright vnto God, but those that are aged in experience, haue many yeres imprinted in their milde conuersation, and haue with Zacheus sold all their possessions of vanities, to inioy the sweet fellowshippe, not of the humans but spirituall messias. Ministers and pastozs sell a waie your sects and schismes to the decrepite Churches in contsation beyond sea, they haue bene so long

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long inured to warre both about matters of religion and regiment, that now they haue no peace of minde, but in troubling all other mens peace. Because the pouertie of their prouinces will allow them no proportionable maintenance for higher callings of ecclesiasticall magistrates, they would reduce vs to the president of their rebellious persecuted beggerie: much like the sect of philosophers called cinikes, who when they saw they were borne to no lands or possessions, nor had any possible meanes to support their desperate estates, but they must liue despised and in miserie doe what they could, they plotted and consulted with themselves howe to make theyr pouertie better esteemed of than rich dominion and soueraignty. The byshot of their plotting and consultation was this, that they would liue to themselves, scorning the very breath or company of all men, they profess (according to the rate of their lands) voluntarie pouerty, thin fare and lying hard, contemning and inueighing against all those as byrte beasts whatsoever whom the world had giuen any reputation for riches or prosperitie. Diogenes was one of the first and foremost of the ring-leaders of this rustie morose, and he for all his nice dogged disposition, and blunt deriding of worldly dole, and the grosse felicitie of soles, was taken notwithstanding a little after very fairely coming monie in his cell: so fares it by and down with our cinicall reformed foraine Churches, they will digest no grapes of great Bishoplikes forth, because they cannot tell how to come by them, they must shape their cotes good men according to their cloth, and doe as they may, not as they would, yet they must gine vs leaue here in England that are their honest neighbours, if wee haue more cloth than they, to make our garment some what larger. What was the foundation or ground-wooke of this dismall declining of Dunster, but the banishing of their Bishop, their confiscating and casting lots for Church linings, as the souldiers cast lots for Christs garments, and in short tearmes, they making the house of God a den of thieves. The house of God a number of hungry church robbers in these dayes haue made a den of thieves. Thieves spend loosely what they haue got lightly, sacriledge is no sure inheritance, Dionisius was nere the richer for robbing Iupiter

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of his golden coate, he was dꝛiuen in the end to play the school-
master at Cozinth. The name of religion, be it good or bad that
is ruinated, God neuer suffers vntreued, He say of it as O-
uid sayd of Eunuchs :

Qui primus pueris genitalia membra recidit
Vulnera quæ fecit debuit ipse pati.

Who first depꝛinde yong boies of their b. & part,
With selfe same wounds he gaue he ought to smart.

So would he that first gelt religion or Church-livings had
bin first gelt himselfe or neuer liued, Cardinall Wolsey is the
man I aime at, Qui in suas poenas ingeniosus erat, first gaue o-
thers a light to his owne ouerthrow. How it prospered with
him and his instruments that after wrought for themselves.
Chronicles largely report, though not apply, and some parcel
of their punishment yet vnpaid, I doe not doubt but will bee
required of their posteritie.

As go forward with my storie of the ouerthrowe of that
vlsurper Iohn Leiden, he and all his armie (as I saide befoꝛe)
falling prostrate on their faces, and seruently giuen ouer to
pꝛaier, determined neuer to cease, or leaue solliciting of God,
till he had shewed them from heauen some manifest miracle
of successe. Note that it was a general receiued tradition both
with I. Leiden and all the crue of Cnipperbolings and Mun-
cers, if God at anie time at their behebement outcries and cla-
mours did not condescend to their requests, to rattle on him and
curse him to his face, to dispute with him, and argue him
of iniustice, for not being so good as his word with them, and
to vꝛge his many promises in the scripture against him : so
that they did not serue God simply, but that hee shoulde serue
their turnes, and after that tenure are many content to serue
as bondmen to saue the danger of hanging: but he that serueth
God aright, whose bright conscience hath for his mot, Amor
est mihi causa sequendi, I serue because I loue: he saies, Ego te
potius domine quam tua dona sequar, I le rather follow thee O
Lord, for thine owne sake, than for anie conscious respect of
that

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that thou canst do for me, Christ would haue no followers, but such as forsooke all and followed him, such as forsake all their owne desires, such as abandon all expectations of rewarde in this world, such as neglected and contemned their liues, their wiues and childzen in comparison of him, and were content to take vp their crosse and follow him. These Anabaptists had not yet forsooke all and followed Christ, they had not forsooke their owne desires of reuenge and inuouation, they had not abandoned their expectation of the spoile of their enemies, they regarded their liues, they looked after their wiues & childzen, they took not vp their crosse of humilitie and followed him, but would crosse him, bphaid him, and set him at naught, if he assured not by some signe their praiers and supplications. Deteriora sequuntur, they followed God as daring him. God heard their praiers, Quod petitur poena est, It was their speedie punishment that they praide for. As according to the summe of their impudent supplications, a signe in the heauens appeared the glorious signe of the rainbow, which agreed with the signe of their ensigne that was a rainbowe likewise. Whereupon assuring themselves of victorie, (Miseri quod volunt, facile credunt) that which wretches would haue they easily beleue. With shoutes and clamours they presentlie ranne headlong on theyr well deserued confusion. Pittifull and lamentable was their unpittied and well performed slaughter. As seene a Beare, (which is the most cruellest of all beastes) to be bloudily ouermatcht, and deformedly rent in peeces by an unconscionable number of currees, it would moue compassion against kinde, and make those that beholding him at the stake yet vnconspite with, wisht him a futable death to his ugly shape, now to recall their hard hearted wishes, and meane him suffering as a mild beast, in comparison of the foule mouthed mastifes his butchers: euen such compassion dyd those ouermatcht vngracious Penitentiaries obtayne of many indifferent eyes, who now thought them suffering, to be as sheepe brought innocent to the shambles, when as before they deemed them as a number of wolues vp in armes agaynst the Shepherdes. The Empyralles themselves that were theyr executioners (Ihesu a Father
E 2 that

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that wepes when he beates his child, yet still wepes and still beates) not without much ruth and sorow prosecuted that lamentable massacre, yet drums and trumpets sounding nothing but sicke reuenge in their eares, made them so eager, that their hands had no leasure to aske counsell of theyr effeminate eyes, theyr swords, theyr pikes, theyr bills, their bows, their calouers flew, empierced, knockt downe, shot thorough, and ouerthrew as many men euerie minute of the battell, as there fals eares of corne befoze the siche at one blowe. yet all theyr weapons so slaying, empiercing, knocking downe, shooting thorough, ouerthrowing, discomfited not halfe so many, as the hailing thunder of their great ordnance: so ordinary at euerie footstep was the imbayment of iron in bloud, that one could hardly discern beads from bullettes, or clotted haire from mangled flesh hung with gore.

This tale must at one time or other giue vp the ghost, and as good now as stay longer, I would gladly rid my hands of it cleanly if I could tell how, for what with talking of coblers, & tinkers, shoemakers, and botchers, and dirt daubers, the marke is cleane gone out of my muses mouth, and I am as it were more than dustified twixt diuinitie and poetrie. What is there more as touching this tragedie that you would be resolved of? saie quickly, for now my pen is got vpon his feet again: how I. Leiden did, is y^e it? he did like a dog, he was hanged and the halter paid for. For his companions, do they trouble you? I can tel you they troubled some men befoze, for they were all kild, and none escapt, no not so much as one to tel the tale of the rainbow. Heare what it is to be Anabaptists, to be puritans, to be villaines, you may be counted illuminated botchers for a while, but your end will be Good people pray for me.

With the tragicall catastrophe of this munsterian conflict, did I cashier the new vocation of my cavalierhip. There was no more honorable wars in christendome then towards, wherefoze after I had learned to be halfe an houre in bidding a man boniure in germane sunonimas, I travelled along the cuntry towards England as fast as I could. What with wagons & bare sentoes hanting attained to Middleborough (good Lord for the changing chances of vs knight arrant infants) I met

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met with the right honorable Lord Henrie Howard Earle of Surrey my late master. Iesu I was perswaded I shoulde not be moze glad to see heauen than I was to see him, It was a right noble Lord, liberalitie it selfe, (if in this yron age there were anie such creature as liberality left on the earth) a prince in content because a Poet without peere. Destinie neuer defames her selfe but when she lets an excellent poet die: if there bee anie sparke of Adams paradized perfection yet emberd vp in the beastes of mortall men, certainly God hath bestowed that his perfectest image on poets. Pons come so nere to God in wit, none moze contemne the world, vatis auarus non temere est animus, sayth Horace, versus amat, hoc studet vnum, Seldom haue you seene anie Poet possessed with avarice, onely verses he loues, nothing else he delights in: and as they contemne the world, so contrarily of the mechanicall world are none moze contemned. Despised they are of the world, because they are not of the world: their thoughts are exalted aboue the world of ignorance and all earthly conceits.

As sweet angelicall queristers they are continually conuersant in the heauen of artes, heauen it selfe is but the highest height of knowledge, he that knowes himselfe & all things else, knowes the means to be happie: happy, twice happie are they whome God hath doubled his spirite vpon, and giuen a double soule vnto to be Poets. My heroicall master exceeded in this supernaturall kinde of wit, hee entertained no grosse earthly spirite of avarice, no weak womanly spirit of pusillanimity and feare that are fained to be of the water, but admirable, airie, and fire spirites, full of freedome, magnanimitie and bountihood. Let me not speake anie moze of his accomplishments, for feare I spend al my spirits in praising him and leaue my selfe no vigoz of wit, or effectes of a soule to goe forward with my histozy. Parting thus met him I so much adozed, no interpleading was there of opposite occasions, but backe I must returne and beare halfe stakes with him in the lotterie of trauell. I was not altogether vntwilling to walke along with such a good purse-bearer, yet musing what changeable humoz had so sodainly seduced him from his native soyle to seek out needlesse perils in these parts beyond sea, one night

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berte boldly I demaunded of him the reason that moued him thereto.

Ab quoth he, my little Page, full little canst thou perceiue howe fa:re metamorphozed I am from my selfe, since I last sawe thee. There is a little God called Loue, that will not bee woꝛshipt of anie leaden bꝛaines, one that pꝛoclaimes himselfe sole king and Emperour of pearcing eyes, and chiefe soueraigne of soft heartes, hee it is that exercising his empire in my eyes, hath exorcized and cleane coniured me from my content. Thou knowest lately Geraldine, to wꝛatly I feare for me to doe homage to her statue or shꝛine, she it is that is come out of Italy to bewitch all the wise men of England, vpon Quene Katherine Dowager shee waites, that hath a dowrie of beautie sufficient to make her wooed of the greatest kings in chꝛistendome. Her high exalted sunne beames haue set the phenix nest of my bꝛeast on fire, and I my selfe haue bzought Arabian spicerie of sweete passions and pꝛaises, to furnish out the funerall flame of my folly. Those who were condemned to be smothered to death by sinking downe into the soft bottom of an high built bedde of roses, neuer diide so swete a death as I shoulde die, if her rose coloured disdain were my deaths-man. Oh thꝛice imperiall Hampton court, Cupids inchaunted castle, the place where I first sawe the perfect omnipotence of the Almighty expꝛessed in mortallitie, tis thou alone, that tithing all other men so, lace in thy pleasant scituation, affoordest mee nothing but an excellent begotten sorowe out of the chiefe treasure of all thy recreations.

Deare Wilton, vnderstand that there it was where I first set eie on my moze than celestall Geraldine. Seeing her I admired her, all the whole receptacle of my sight was inhabited with her rare woꝛth. Long sute and vncessant protestations got me the grace to be entertained. Did neuer vnloving seruant so pꝛentiselike obey his neuer pleased mistres, as I dyd her. My lyfe, my wealth, my friends, had all theyꝛ destinie depending on her command. Vppon a time I was determined to trauell, the same of Italy, and an especiall affection

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I had vnto Poetrie my second mistres, for which Italy was so famous, had wholly ranisht mee vnto it. There was no de-
hoymment from it, but needes thether I woulde, wherefoze
comming to my mistres as she was then walking with other
Ladies of estate in paradise at Hampton court, I most hum-
blie besought her of fauour, that shee would giue me so much
gracious leaue to absent my selfe from her seruice, as to tra-
uell a yeare or two into Italy. She verie discretly aunswere-
d mee, that if my loue were so hot as I had often auouched,
I dyd verie well to applie the plaister of absence vnto it, for
absence, as they saie, causeth forgetfulness, yet neuerthelesse
since it is Italy my native Countrie you are so desirous to see,
I am the more willing to make my will yours. I pte Itali-
am, go and seeke Italie with Aenzas, but bee more true than
Aenzas, I hope that kinde wit-cherishing climate will worke
no change in so wittie a beast. No countrie of mine shall
it be more, if it conspire with thee, in anie newe loue agaynst
mee. One charge I will giue thee, and let it bee rather a re-
quest than a charge: When thou comest to Florence (the
saye Citie from whence I fetcht the pride of my birth) by
an open challenge defende my beautie agaynst all com-
mers.

Thou hast that honourable carryage in armes, that it
shall bee no discredit for mee to bequeath all the glorie of my
beautie to thy well gouerned arme. Faine woulde I be kno-
wen where I was bozne, faine woulde I haue thee kno-
wen where same sits in her chiefest theater. Farewell, forget
mee not, continued deserts will eternize me vnto thee, thy full
wishes shall bee cypired when thy trauell shall bee once
ended.

Heere dyd teares stepe out befoze wordes, and intercep-
ted the course of my kinde conceined spech, euen as winde is
allayed with raine: with heart scalding sighes I confirmed
her parting request, and bowed my selfe hers, while liuing
heate allowed mee to see mine eene, Hinc illa lachrima,
heere hence proceedeth the whole cause of my peregrina-
tion.

Not a litle was I delighted with this vnexpected loue story,
specie

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especially from a mouth out of which was nought wont to march but sterne p̄cepts of grauitie and modestie. I sweare vnto you I thought his companie the better by a thousand crownes, because he had discarded those nice tearmes of chastitie and continencie. Now I beseech God loue me so well as I loue a plain dealing man, earth is earth, flesh is flesh, earth will to earth, and flesh vnto flesh, fraile earth, fraile flesh, who can keepe you from the woꝝke of your creation.

Dismissing this fruitlesse annotation pro et contra, towards Venice we p̄gress, & toke Rotterdam in our waie, that was cleane out of our waie, there wee met with aged learninges chiefe ornament, that abundant and superingenious clarke Erasmus, as also with merrie sir Thomas Moore our Countryman, who was come purposely ouer a little before vs, to visite the sayd graue father Erasmus: what talk, what conference we had then, it were beere superfluous to rehearse, but this I can assure you, Erasmus in al his speeches seemed so much to mislike the indiscretion of p̄inces in p̄ferring of parasites & toles, that he decreed with himselfe to swim with the streame, and wrote a booke forthwith in commendation of folly. Quick witted sir Thomas Moore traueled in a cleane contrarie p̄ouince, for hee seeing most common-wealths corrupted by ill custome, & that p̄ncipalities were nothing but great piracies, which gotten by violence and murther, were maintained by p̄uate vndermining and bloudshed, that in the chiefest flourishing kingdomes there was no equal or wel diuided weale one with another, but a manifest conspiracie of rich men against poore men, p̄curing their owne vnlawfull commodities vnder the name and interest of the common-wealth: he concluded with himselfe to lay downe a perfect plot of a common-wealth or gouernment, which he would intitle his Vtopia. So lefte wee them to p̄secute their discontented studies, & made our next iourney to Wittenberg.

At the verie point of our enterance into Wittenberg, wee were spectators of a verie solempne scolasticall entertainment of the Duke of Saxonie thither. Whome because he was the chiefe patrone of their vniuersitie, and had toke Luthers parte in banishing the masse and all lyke papall iurisdiction out of their

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their towne, they croucht vnto extreamly. The chiefe ceremonies of their entertainment were these: first, the heads of their vniuersitie, (they were great heads of certaintie) met him in their hooded hypocrisse and doctoꝝly accouſtrements, secundum formam statuti, where by the Oratoꝝ of the vniuersitie, whose pickerdeuant was very plentifully besprinkled with rose water, a verie learned or rather ruthfull Oration was deliuered (foꝝ it rained all the while) signifieng thus much, that it was al by patch and by pceemeale stolne out of Tully, & he must pardon them, though in emptying their phrase booke, the ayze emptied his intrailles, foꝝ they did it not in anie ostentation of wit (which they had not) but to shewe the extraoꝝdinarie good will they bare the Duke, (to haue him stand in the raine tyll he was thorough wet) a thousand quemadmodums and quapropters he came ouer him with, euery sentence he concluded with *Esse posse videretur*: though all the nine worthies he ran with praising and comparing him, Nestors yeares he assured him off vnder the boade seale of their supplications, and with that crowe troden verse in Virgil, *Dum iuga montis aper*, hee packt wth his pipes, and cride dixi.

That pageant ouerpast, there rusht vpon him a miserable rabblement of iunioꝝ graduats, that all crid out vpon him mightily in their gibbrige lyke a companie of beggers, God saue your grace, God saue your grace, Iesus pꝛeserue your highnes, though it be but foꝝ an houre.

Some thꝛe halfe pennyworth of Latine here also had he thꝛowen at his face, but it was choise stuffe I can tell you, as there is a choise euen amongst ragges gathered vp from the dunghill. At the townes end met him the burgers and dunstical incoꝝpꝛationers of Wittenberg in their distinguished liveries, their distinguished liverie faces I mene, foꝝ they were most of them hot liucred dꝛonkards, and had all the coate colours of sanguin, purple, crimson, copper, carnation that were to be had in their countenaunces. Filthy knaues, no cost had they bestowed on the town foꝝ his welcome, sauing new painted their houghs & bonking houses, which commonly are built fayer than their Churches, and ouer their gates set the town armes, which sounded gulping after this soꝝt, Vanhotten, slot-

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ten, irk bloshen glotten gelderlike : what euer the wordes were, the sence was this, God drinke is a medicine for all diseases.

A bursten belly inkhozne orator called Vanderhulke, they pickt out to present him with an oration, one that had a sulphurous big swolne large face, like a Saracen, eyes lyke two kentish oysters, a mouth that opened as wide euerie time he spake, as one of those olde knit trap doozes, a beard as though it had bin made of a birds neast pluckt in peeces, which consisteth of strawe, haire, and durt mixt together. Hee was apparelled in blacke leather new licourde, and a short golwe without any gathering in the backe, faced befoze and behind with a boistrous Beare skinne, and a red nightcap on his head. To this purpoyt and effecte was this breeching double beere Oration.

Right noble Duke (ideo nobilis quasi nobilis) for you haue noble or cholar in you, know that our present incorporation of Wittenberg, by me the tongue-man of their thankfulness, a townesman by birth, a free Germane by nature, an orator by arte, and a scrivener by education, in all obedience & charity, most bountifully bid you welcome to Wittenberg: welcome sayde I: Orificiall rethorike wipe thy everlasting mouth, and affoord me a moze Indian metaphoe than that, for the braue princely bloud of a Saxon. Oratorie vncaske the hard butch of thy complements, and with the triumphantest troupe in thy treasure doe trewage vnto him. What impotent speech with his eight partes may not specifie this vnestimable gift holding his peace, shall as it were (with teares I speake it) do wherby as it may seeme or appeare, to manifest or declare & yet it is, & yet it is not, & yet it may bee a diminutive oblation meritorious to your high pusillanimitie & indignity. Why shoulde I goe gadding and siggigging after firkig flantado Amphibologies, wit is wit, and good will is good will. With all the wit I haue, I here according to the premises, offer vp vnto you the Cities generall good will, which is a gilded Canne, in manner and soyme following, for you and the beires of your bodie lawfully begotten, to drinke bealths in. The scolasticall squitter bookes clout you vp canopies & foot-clothes

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clothes of verses. ~~What~~ that are good fellows, and live as merrie as cup and can, will not verse upon you as they do, but must doe as we can, and entertaine you if it bee but with a playne emptie Canne. He hath learning inough that hath learned to drinke to his first man.

Gentle Duke, without parador be it spoken, thy horses at our owne proper costs and charges shall kneed vp to the knees all the while thou art here in spzuce bære & lubeck licour. Not a dog thou bzingst with thee but shall be banketted with rhenish wine and surgion. On our shoulders we weare no lamb skin o; miniuier like these academikes, yet wee can dzinke to the confusion of all thy enemies. Good lambes-wooll haue we so; their lambe skins, and so; their miniuier, large minerals in our coffers. Mechanicall men they call vs, and not amisse, so; most of vs being Machi, y is, cuckolds & whoozemasters, fetch our antiquitie from the temple of Macha, where Bahomet is hung vp. Thzee parts of the world, America, Affrike and Asia, are of this our mechanike religion. Nero when he cri'd O quantus artifex pereō, pzofest himsele of our frèdome. In somuch as Artifex is a citizen o; crafts-man, as wel as Carnifex a scholler o; hangman. Passe on by leaue into the pzecinds of our abhominatiō. Wcny Duke, frolike in our bowze, and perswade thy selfe that euen as garlike hath thzee pzoperties, to make a man winke, dzinke, and stinke, so wee wyll winke on thy imperfections, dzinke to thy fauozites, & all thy foes shall stinke befoze vs. So be it. Farewell.

The Duke laught not a little at this ridiculous oration, but that verie night, as great an ironieall occasion was minifired, for he was bidden to one of the chiefe scholes to a Come, die handled by scollers . Acolastus the prodigall childe was the name of it, which was so filthily acted, so leathernly sette foozth, as woulde haue moued laughter in Heraclitus. One as if he had bene playning a clay flooze stampingly troade the stage so harde with his fete, that I thought verily he had resolved to doe the Carpenter that sette it vp some vtter shame. Another floung his armes lyke cudgelles at a peare tree, in so much as it was mightily decayed that hee woulde strike the candles that hung about theyr heades out of their

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their sockets, and leaue them all darke. Another did nothing but winke and make faces. There was a parasite, e he with clapping his hands and thipping his fingers seemed to dance an antike to and fro. The onely thing they did well, was the prodigal childes hunger, most of their schollers being hungerly kept, and surely you would haue sayd they had ben brought by in hogs academic to learne to eate acornes, if you had seene how sedulously they fell to them. Not a test had they to keepe their auditors from sleepe but of swill and drasse, yes now and then the seruant put his hand into the dish befoze his master, and almost choakt himselfe, eating clownely and rauenously to cause sport.

The next daie they had solempne disputations, where Luther and Carolostadius scolded leuell coile. A masse of wordes I wot well they heapt vp against the masse and the Pope, but farther perticulars of their disputations I remember not. I thought verily they woulde haue worried one another with wordes, they were so earnest and vehement. Luther had the louder voice, Carolostadius went beyond him in beating and bounsing with his fists, Quæ supra nos nihil ad nos. They vttered nothing to make a man laugh, therefore I wil leaue the. Mary they outward iestures now and then would affoord a man a morsell of mirth: of those two I meane not so much, as of all the other traine of opponents and respondents. One peckte like a crane with his foze-finger at euery halfe syllable he brought forth, and nodded with his nose like an olde singing man, teaching a yong querister to keepe time. Another would be sure to wipe his mouth with his handkercher at the end of euerie full point. And euer when he thought he had cast a figure so curiously, as he diu'de ouer head and eares into his auditors admiration, hee would take occasion to stroke vp his haire, and twine vp his mustachios twice or thrice ouer while they might haue leasure to applaud him. A third wauerd and wagled his head like a proud horse playing with his bydle, or as I haue seene some fantastick swimmer, at euerie stroke, traine his chin side-long ouer his left shoulder. A fourth swet and foamed at the mouth, for verie anger his aduersarie had denied that part of his sillogisme which he was not prepared to

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to answer. A fifth spread his armes like an ether that goes befoze to make rone, and thrypt with his finger & his thumbe whe he thought he had tickled it with a conclusion. A sixt hung downe his countenance lyke a sheepe, and stutted and flauered verie pittifully when his inuention was kept aside out of the waie. A seuenth gaspt and gapt for winde, and groined in his pronounciation as if he were hard bound with some bad argument. Grosse plodders they were all, that had some learning and reading, but no wit to make vse of it. They imagined the Duke took the greatest pleasure and contentment vnder heauen to heare them speak Latine, and as long as they talkt nothing but Tully he was bound to attend them. A most vaine thing it is in many vniuersities at this daye, that they count him excellent eloquent, who stealeth not whole phrases but whole pages out of Tully. If of a number of shreds of his sentences he can shape an oration, from all the world hee carries it awaie, although in truth it be no more than a soles coat of many colours. No inuention or matter haue they of they: owne, but take vp a stile of his stale galimafries. The leaden headed Germanes first began this, and we Englishmen haue surfettted of their absurd imitation. I pittie Nizolius that had nothing to doe, but picke shreds ends out of an olde ouerwozne garment.

This is but by the waie, we must looke backe to our disputants. One amongst the rest thinking to be more conceited than his fellowes, seeing the Duke haue a dog beeloned well, which late by him on the tarras, conuerted all his oration to him, and not a haire of his taile but he kembd out with comparisons. So to haue courted him if he were a hitch had bin verie suspicious. Another commented & descanted on the Dukes staffe, new tipping it with many queint epithites. Some call his natiuitie, and promised him he should not die till the date of iudgement. Omitting further superfluities of this stampe, in this general assembly we found intermired that abundant scholler Cornelius Agrippa. At that time he bare the fame to be the greatest coniuurer in Christendome. Scoto that did the iuggling trickes here befoze the Quene, neuer came nere him one quarter in magicke reputation. The Doctors of Wittenberg

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dosing on the rumour that went of him, desired him befoze the Duke and them to doe something extraoꝝdinarie memorable.

One requested to see pleasant Plautus, & that he would shew them in what habite hee went, and with what countenance he lookt, when he ground coꝝne in the mill. Another had halfe a moneths minde to Ouid and his booke nose. Erasmus who was not wanting to that honourable meeting, requested to see Tully in that same grace and maiestie he pleaded his *Orati- on pro Roscio Amerino*. Affirming, that til in rerson he beheld his impoꝝtunitie of pleading, he woulde not be perswaded a- nie man coulde carrie a waie a manifest case with rethoꝝike, so straungely. To Erasmus petition he easily condescended, and willing the Doctors at such an houre to holde theyꝝ con- uocation, and euerie one to keepe him in his place without mouing: at the time pꝛescribed he entered Tully, ascended his pleading place, and declaimed verbatim the foꝝnamed *Orati- on*, but with such astonishing amazement, with such feruent exaltation of spirite, with such soule-stirring iestures, that all his auditours were readie to install his guiltie client foꝝ a God.

Great was the concourse of glorie Agrippa dretwe to him with this one feate. And in deede hee was so cloyed with men which came to beholde him, that hee was fayne sooner than hee woulde, to returne to the Emperours court from whence hee came, and leaue Wittenberg befoze hee woulde. With him we trauelled along, hauing purchast his acquain- tance a little befoze. By the waie as wee went, my master and I agreed to change names. It was concluded betwixt vs, that I shoulde be the Earle of Surrie, and hee my man, onely because in his owne person, which hee woulde not haue reproched, he meant to take moze libertie of behaniour. As foꝝ my carriage hee knew hee was to tune it at a key, eyther high oꝝ low, oꝝ as hee list.

To the Emperours Court wee came, where our enter- tainment was euerie waie plentifull, carouses wee had in whole galons in stead of quart pots. Not a health was gi- uen vs but contayned well neere a hogthead. The customes
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of the Countrie we were eager to be instructed in, but nothing we coulde learne but this, that euer at the Emperours coronation there is an Ore roasted with a stagge in the belly, and that stagge in his belly hath a kidde, and that kidde is stufte full of birdes. Some courtiers to wearie out time woulde tell vs further tales of Cornelius Agrippa, and how when sir Thomas Moore our countrieman was there, he shewed him the whole destruction of Troy in a dreame. Now the Lorde Cromwell being the kings Embassadour there, in lyke case, in a perspectiue glasse he set befoze his eyes, King Henrie the eight with all his Lordes hunting in his sozrest at Windsor, and when he came into his studie, and was verie vrgent to be partaker of some rare experiment, that he might report when he came into England, he wilde him amongst two thousande great bookes to take downe which he list, and begin to reade one line in anie place, and without booke he woulde rehearse twentie leaues following. Cromwell dyd so, and in manye bookes tride him, when in euerie thing hee exceeded his promise and conquered his expectation. To Charles the fifteth Emperour, they reported how he shewed the nine worthies, Dauid, Salomon, Gedeon, and the rest, in that similitude and lykenesse that they liued vpon earth. My master and I hauing by the high waie side gotten some reasonable familiaritie with him, vpon this accesse of myzacles imputed to him, resolved to request him something in our owne behalves. I because I was his suborned Lorde and master, desired him to see the liuely image of Geraldine his loue in the glasse, and what at that instant she did, and with whome shee was talking. Hee shewed her vs without moze adoe, sicke weeping on her bedde, and resolved all into deuoute religion for the absence of her Lorde. At the sight thereof hee coulde in no wise refrayne, though hee had tooke vpon him the condition of a seruant, but hee must forthwith frame this extemporall Dittie.

All

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ALL soule, no earthly flesh, why dost thou fade,
All gold, no worthlesse drosse, why lookst thou pale,
Sicknesse how darst thou one so faire invade,
Too base infirmitie to worke her bale.

Heauen be distemperd since she griued pines,
Neuer be drie these my sad plaintiue lines.

Pearch thou my spirit on her siluer breasts,
And with their paine redoubled musike beatings,
Let them tesse thee to world where all toile rests,
Where blisse is subiect to no feares defeatings,
Her praise I tune whose tongue doth tune the sphears,
And gets new muses in her hearers eares.

Starres fall to fetch fresh light from her rich eyes,
Her bright brow driues the Sunne to clouds beneath,
Her haire reflex with red strakes paints the skies,
Sweet morne and euening dew flowes from her breath:
Phoebe rules tides, she my teares tides forth drawes,
In her sicke bed loue sits and maketh lawes.

Her daintie limbes tinsell her silke soft sheets,
Her rose-crownd cheekes eclipse my dazeled sight,
O glasse with too much ioy my thoughts thou greets,
And yet thou shewst me day but by twie-light.
He kisse thee for the kindnesse I haue felt,
Her lips one kisse would vnto Nectar melt.

Though the Emperors court, and the extraordinary edi-
ficing companie of Cornelius Agrippa might haue bene argu-
ments of waight to haue arrested vs a little longer there, yet
Italy still stuck as a great moat in my masters eie, he thought
he had trauelled no farther than Wales til he had toke suruey
of that Countrie which was such a curious mould of wits.

To

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To cut off blinde ambages by the high way side, we made a long stride & got to Venice in short time, where hauing scarce lookt about vs, a precious supernaturall pandoz, apparellled in all points like a gentleman, and hauing halfe a dosen seuerall languages in his purse, entertained vs in our owne tongue verie paraphrastically and eloquently, and maugre all other pretended acquaintance, would haue vs in a violent kinde of curtesie to be the guests of his appointment. His name was Petro de campo Frego, a notable practitioner in the pollicy of baudie. The place whether he brought vs, was a pernicious-curtizans house named Tabitha the Tempresses, a wench that could set as ciuill a face on it, as chastities first marty^r Lucrecia. What will you conceit to bee in anie Saintes house that was there to seeke? Bookes, pictures, beades, crucifixes, why there was a haberdashers shop of them in euerie chamber. I warrant you should not see one set of her neckercher peruerterd or turned awrye, not a piece of a haire displac't. On her beddes there was not a wrinkle of anie wallowing to be founde, her pillowes bare out as smooth as a growing wifes belly, & yet she was a Turke and an infidell, and had more dooings than all her neighbours besides. As for our money they bled lyke Emperours, I was master as you heard before, and my master the Earle was but as my chiefe man whome I made my companion. So it happened (as iniquitie will out at one time or other) that she perceiuing my expence had no more ventes than it should haue, fell in with my supposed seruant my man, and gaue him halfe a promise of marriage, if he woulde helpe to make me away, that she and he might inioy the iewels and wealth that I had.

The indifficultie of the condition thus she explaiⁿd vnto him, her house stood vpon vaults, which in two hundred yeres together were neuer searcht, who came into her house none tooke notice of, his fellow seruants that knewe of his masters abode there, should be all dispatcht by him as from his master, into sundrie partes of the citie about busines, and when they returned, answer should bee made that hee lay not there anie more, but had removed to Padua since their departure, & whether they must follow him. Now (quoth she) if you be disposed

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to make him awale in their absence, you shall haue my house at command. Stab, poison, or shote him thzough with a pistoll all is one, into the vault he shall be thzowen when the daie is done. On my bare honestie it was a craftie queane, for she had enacted with her selfe if he had bin my legitimate seruant, as he was one that serued and supplied my necessities, when she had murdered me, to haue accused him of the murther, and made all that I had hers (as I carryed all my masters wealth, monie, icwels, rings, or bills of exchange continually about me.) He verie subtilly consented to her stratageme at the first motion, kill me he woulde, that heaue ns could not withstand, and a pistoll was the predestinate engin which must deliuer the parting blow. God wot I was a rawe young squier, and my master dealt iudassly with me, for he tolde mee but euerie thing that she and he agreed of. Wherefore I could not possibly preuent it, but as a man woulde saie auoide it. The execution daie aspired to his utmost deuolution, into my chamber came my honourable attendant with his pistoll charged by his side verie suspiciously, and sullenly, lady Tabitha and Petro de campo Frego her pandoz folloved him at the hard heeles. At the entrance I saluted them all verie familiarly and merily, and began to impart vnto them what disquiet or cares had disturbed me the last night. I dreame, quoth I, that my man Brunquell heere (for no better name got he of mee) came into my chamber with a pistoll charged vnder his arme to kill me, and that hee was suborned by you mistres Tabitha, and my verie good friend here Petro de campo Frego. God send it tourne to good, for it hath afrighted mee aboue measure. As they were readie to enter into a colourable common place of the deceitful friuolousnes of dreames, my trustie seruant Brunquell stoode quivering and quaking euerie ioynt of him, and (as it was before compacted between vs) let his pistoll drop from him on the sodain, toherwith I started out of my bed, and drew my rapier and cride murther, murther, which made good wise Tabitha readie to bepisse her.

My seruant, or my master, which you will, I toke roughly by the collar, and thzeatned to run him thzough incontinent if he confest not the truth. He as it were stricken with remorse
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of conscience (God be with him, for he could counterfeit most daintily) downe on his knees, askt me forgiveness, and impeached Tabitha and Petro de campo Frego as guiltie of subornation. I verie mildly and grauely gaue him audience, raile on them I did not after his tale was ended, but sayd I would trie what the lawe coulde doe. Conspiracie by the custome of their countrie was a capitall offence, and what custome or iustice might affoord they should be all sure to feele. I coulde (quoth I) acquite my selfe otherwise, but it is not for a stranger to bee his owne caruer in reuenge. Not a worde more with Tabitha but die she would before God or the deuill would haue her, she sounded and reuiued, and then sounded againe, and after she reuiued againe sighed heauily, spoke faintly and pittifully, yea and so pittifully, as if a man had not knowen the pranks of harlots before, he would haue melted in comiseration. Tears sighs, and dolefull tuned wordes could not make anie forcible claime to my stonie eares, it was the glistering crownes that I hungered and thirsted after, and wish them for all her mock holy day lectures she was faine to come off, before I woulde condescend to anie bargaine of silence. So it fortun'd (he vpon that vnfortunate word of Fortune) y this whoze, this quean, this curtizan, this common of ten thousand, so bribing me not to betray her, had giuen me a great deale of counterfeit gold, which she had receiued of a coiner to make awaie a little before. Amongst the grosse summe of my brierie, I illy milkesop mistrusting no deceit, vnder an angell of light tooke what she gaue me, nere turnd it ouer, for which (O falsehood in faire shew) my master and I had like to haue bin turned ouer. Hee that is a knight arrant, exercised in the affaires of Ladies and Gentlewomen, hath more places to send mony to, than the diuell hath to send his spirites to. There was a delicate wench called Flauia Aemilia lodging in S. Parkes Stréete at a Goldsmiths, which I would faine haue had to the grand test, to trie whether she were currant in alcumie or no. Ais me. Shee was but a counterfeit slip, for she not only gaue me the slip, but had welnie made me a slipstring. To her I sent my gold to beg an hour of grace, ah gracelesse fornicatresse, my hostesse & she wer confederate, who hauing gotten but one piece of my ill golde

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Into their handes, deuised the meanes to make me immortall. I could drinke for anger till my head ake, to thinke how I was abused. Shall I blame the deuill and speake the truth, to prison was I sent as principall, and my master as accessarie, no, was it to a prison neither, but to the master of the mints house who though partly our iudge, and a most severe vpriht iustice in his own nature, extreemly seemed to condole our ignozant estate, and without all peradventure a present redresse he had ministred, if certaine of our countrie men bearing an English earle was apprehended for coining, had not come to visite vs. An ill planet brought them thether, for at the first glance they knew the seruant of my secrecies to be the Earle of Surrey, and I (not worthie to be named I) an outcast of his cup or his pantofles. Thence, thence sprong the full period of our infelicite. The master of the mint our whileme refresher and consolation, now tooke part against vs, he thought we had a mint in our head of mischieuous conspiracies against their state. Heauens bare witnes with vs it was not so, (Heauens will not always come to witnes when they are cald.)

To a straiter ward were we comitted: that which we haue imputatiuely transgressed must be answered. O the heathen heigh passe, and the intrinsecall legerdmain of our special approued good pando, Petro de Campo Frego. Wee although bee dipt in the same dish with vs euerie daie, seeming to labo, our cause verie impo, unatly, and had interpreted for vs to the state from y beginning, yet was one of those trecherous brother Trulies, and abused vs most clarkly. He interpreted to vs with a pestilence, for whereas we stood obstinately vpon it, we were wrongfully detained, and that it was naught but a malicious practise of Anfull Tabitha our late hostesse, he by a fine conny-catching corrupt translation, made vs plainly to confesse, and crie Misereere, ere we had need of our neck-verse.

Detestable, detestable, that the flesh and the deuill shoulde deale by their factos. He stand to it, there is not a pando, but hath you ed paganism. The deuill himselfe is not such a deuill as he, so be he perfozme his function aright. He must haue the backe of an asse, the snout of an elephant, the wit of a fore, and the teeth of a wolfe, he must faune like a spaniell, crouch like

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like a Jew, liere like a Shepberd. If he be halfe a puritan, and haue scripture continually in his mouth, he speaks the better. I can tell you it is a trade of great promotion, and let none euer thinke to mount by service in sozain courts, or cr  p n  re to some magnifique Lord, if they be not s  ne in this science. It is the art of arts, and ten thousand times goes beyond the intelligencer. None but a staid grave ciuill man is capable of it, he must haue exquisite courtship in him or else he is not old who, he wants the best point in his tables.

God be mercifull to our pandoz (and that were soz God to wo  ke a miracle) he was s  ne in all the seuen liberall deably sciences, not a sinne but he was as absolute in as sathan himselfe. Sathan could neuer haue supplanted vs so as hee did. I may saie to you he planted in vs the first Itallionate wit that we had. During the time we lay close and toke phisick in this castle of contemplation, there was a Magnifico  s wife of good calling sent in to beare vs companie. Her husbands name was Castaldo, the hight Diamante, the cause of her committing was an vngrounded ielous suspicion which her doating husbands had conceiued of her chastitie. One Isaac Medicus a bergomast was the man hee chose to make him a monster, who beeing a courtier and repairing to his house very often, neither soz loue of him noz his wife, but onely with a d  ist to bo  rowe monie of a patrone of ware and parchment, when he sawe his expectation deluded, and that Castaldo was too charie soz him to close with, he priuily with purpose of reuenge, gaue out amongst his copelmates, that hee resozted to Castaldos house soz no other end but to cuckolde him, & doubtfully he talkt that he had and he had not obtained his inte. Kings which he bo  rowed of a light curtizan that he vsed to, hee woulde faine to bee taken from her fingers, and in summe, so handled the matter, that Castaldo exclaimed, Out whoze, strumpet, five pennny backster, away with her to prison.

As glad were we almost as if they had giuen vs libertie, that fortune lent vs such a sweet pue-fellow. A prettie round faced wench was it, with blacke eye browes, a high sozehead, a litle mouth, and a sharpe nose, as fat and plump euerie part of her as a plouer, a skin as slike and soft as the backe of a swan, it doth

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me good when I remember her. Like a birde she tript on the ground, and bare out her belly as maiesticall as an Estrich. With a licozous rouling eye first percing on the earth, & sometimes scornfully darted on the tone side, shee figured soorth a high discontented disdain, much like a pynce puffing and storming at the treason of some mightie subiect fled lately out of his power. Her verie countenance repiningly w2athfull, and yet clere and vnw2inkled, would haue confirmed the clernes of her conscience to the austereſt iudge in the world. If in any thing she were culpable, it was in being too melancholy chaff, and shewing her selfe as couetous of her beautie as her husband was of his bags. Many are honest because they knowe not how to be dishonest: she thought there was no pleasure in stolne bread, because there was no pleasure in an olde mans bed. It is almost impossible that anie woman should be excellently wittie, and not make the vtmost pennie of her beautie. This age and this countrie of ours admits of some miraculous exceptions, but former times are my constant informers. Those that haue quicke motions of wit, haue quicke motions in euerie thing: y2on onely needes many strokes, onely y2on wits are not wonne without a long siege of intreatie. Golde easily bends, the most ingenious mindes are easiest moued, Ingenium nobis molle Thalia dedit, saith Psapho to Phao. Who hath no mercifull milde mistres, I will maintaine, hath no wittie but a clownish dull flegmatike puppete to his mistres.

This Magnificos wife was a good louing soule, that had mettall inough in her to make a good wit of, but being neuer remoued from vnder her mothers and her husbands wing, it was not moulded and fashioned as it ought. Causelesse distrust is able to dyne deceite into a simple womans head. I durst p2one the credit of a page, which is worth as ale at all times, that she was immaculate honest till she met with vs in prison. Marie what temptations shee had then when fire and flaxe were put together, conceit with your selues, but hold my master excusable.

Alacke he was too vertuous to make her vicious, he stood vpon religion and conscience, what a hainous thing it was to subuert Gods ordinance. This was all the intarie he would offer

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effect her, sometimes he would imagine her in a melancholike humour to be his Geraldine, and court her in tearmes correspondent, nay he would swear she was his Geraldine, & take her white hand and wipe his eyes with it, as though the very touch of her might stanch his anguish. Now would he kneele and kisse the ground as holy grounde which she toucht to blesse from barrenesse by her steps. Who would haue learned to write an excellent passion, might haue bin a perfect tragicke poet, had he but attended halfe the extremitie of his lament. Passion vpon passion would throng one on anothers necke, he would praise her beyond the moone and starres, and that so sweetly & rauishingly, as I perswade my self he was more in loue with his owne curious forming fancie than her face, and truth it is, many become passionate louers, only to win praise to theyr wits.

He praised, he praised, hee desired and besought her to pittie him that perisht for her. From this his intranced mistaking extasse could no man remoue him. Who loueth resolutely, will include euerie thing vnder the name of his loue. From prose he would leape into verse, and with these or such lyke rimes assault her.

*If I must die; O let me choose my death,
Sucke out my soule with kisses cruell maide,
In thy breasts christall bals enbalme my breath
Dole it all out in sighs when I am laid.
Thy lips on mine like cupping glasses claspe,
Let our tongues meete and strue as they would sting,
Crush out my winde with one strait girtling graspe,
Stabs on my heart keepe time whilest thou dost sing.
Thy eies like searing yrons burne out mine,
In thy faire tresses stifles me outright,
Like Circes change me to a loathsome swine,
So I may liue for euer in thy sight.*

*Into heauens ioyes can none profoundly see,
Except that first they meditate on thee.*

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Sadly and verily, if my master said true, I should if I were a wench make many men quickly immortall. What ist, what ist for a maide saye and freshe to spend a little lip salve on a hungrie louer. My master beate the bush and kept a colle and a pratling, but I caught the birde, simplicitie and plainnesse shall carrie it a waie in another world. God wot he was Petro Desperato, when I stepping to hir with a dunstable tale made by my market. A holy requiem to their soules that thinke to woe women with riddles. I had some cunning plot you must suppose, to bring this about. Her husband had abused her, and it was verie necessarie she should be reuenged. Seldome doe they proue patient martyrs who are punished uniaustly. One way or other they wil cry quittance whatsoeuer it cost them. No other apte meanes had this pooze shee captined Cicely, to worke her hoddie peake husbände a proportionable plague to his ielousie, but to giue his head his ful loading of infamie. She thought she would make him complaine for some thing, that now was so hard bound with an hereticall opinion. Howe I dealt with her, gesse gentle reader, Subaudi that I was in prison, and she was my Jailor.

Meanes there was made after a moneths or two durance by M. Iohn Russell, a gentleman of king Henrie the eighths chamber, who then lay lieger at Venice for England, that our cause should be fauorably heard. At that time was Monsieur Petro Aretino searcher and chiefe Inquisiter for the colledge of curtizans. Diuerse and sundrie wayes was this Aretine beholding to the king of England, especially, for by this soresaid M. Russell a little before he had sent him a pension of foure hundredeth crownes yerely during his life. Very forcibly was hee dealt withall, to straine the utmost of his credit for our deliuerie. Nothing at his handes wee sought, but that the curtizan might be moze narrowly sifted and examined. Such and so extraordinary was his care and industrie heerein, that within few dayes after mistres Tabitha and her pandoz cride Peccaui confiteor, and we were presently discharged, they for example sake executed. Most honorably after our enlargement of the state were we vled, and had sufficient recompence for all our troubles and wrongs.

Before

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Before I goe anie further, let me speake a word or two of this Arctine. It was one of the wittiest knaues that euer God made. If out of so base a thing as inke there may be extracted a spirite, he wrot with nought but the spirite of inke, and his stile was the spiritnaltie of artes, and nothing else, where as all others of his age were but the lay temporaltie of inkhorne tearmes. For in deede they were mere temporizers, & no better. His penne was sharpe pointed like ponyard. No leaue he wrote on, but was like a burning glasse to sette on fire all his readers. With more then musket shot did he charge his quill, where he meant to inueigh. No one houre but he sent a whole legion of deuils into some heard of (wine or other. If Martiall had ten muses (as he sayth of himselfe) when hee but tasted a cup of wine, he had ten scoze when he determined to tyranize. Here a line of his but was able to make a man drunken with admiration. His sight pearst like lightning into the intrailles of al abuses. This I must needs saie, that most of his learning hee gotte by hearing the lectures at Florence. It is sufficient that learning he had, and a conceite exceeding all learning, to quintessence euerie thing which he hard. He was no timorous seruile flatterer of the common-wealth wherein he lined. His tongue and his inuention were sozebozne, what they thought they would confidently utter. Princes hee sparde not, that in the least point transgress. His life he contemned in comparison of the libertie of speech. Whereas some dull bzaine maligners of his, accuse him of that treatise de tribus impostoribus Mundi, which was neuer contriued without a generall counsell of deuils, I am verily perswaded it was none of his, and of my minde are a number of the most iudiciall Italians. One reason is this, because it was published fortie yeeres after his death, and he neuer in all his life wrote anie thing in Latine. Certainly I haue heard that one of Machiuels followers and disciples was the autho: of that booke, who to auoid discredite, filcht it forth vnder Arctines name, a great while after hee had sealed vp his eloquent spirit in the graue. Too much gall dyd that wo:rw:ood of Cibeline wits put in his inke, who ingraued that rubarbe Epitaph on this excellent Doctrs tombstone, Quite forsaken of all good Angels was he, and utterly giuen

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ouer to an artlesse enuie. foure vniuersities honored Aretine with these rich titles, Il flagello de principi, Il veritiero, Il deuino, & L'vnico Aretino.

The French king Frances the first, he kept in such awe, that to chaine his tongue, he sent him a huge chaine of golde, in the forme of tongues fashioned. Singularly hath hee commented of the humanity of Christ. Besides, as Moses set forth his Genesis, so hath hee set forth his Genesis also, including the contents of the whole Bible. A notable treatise hath hee compiled, called Il sette Psalmi poenitentiarii. All the Thomasos haue cause to loue him, because he hath dilated so magnificently of the life of Saint Thomas. There is a good thing that he hath set forth La vita della virgine Maria, though it somewhat smell of superstition, with a number more, which be: e for tediousnesse I suppress. If lasciuious he were, he may answer with Ouid, Vita verecunda est, Musa iocosa mea est, My lyfe is chaste though wanton be my verse. Tell mee who is most travelled in histories, what good Boet is or euer was there, who hath not had a little spice of wantonnes in dayes? Euen Beza himselfe by your leave. Aretine as long as the worlde liues shalt thou live. Tully, Virgil, Ouid, Seneca, were neuer such ornaments to Italy as thou hast bene. I neuer thought of Italy more religiously than England til I heard of thee. Peace to thy Ghost, and yet mee thinkes so indefinite a spirite should haue no peace or intermission of paines, but be penning Duties to the Archangels in another worlde. Puritans spue forth the venome of your dull inuentions. A Toabe swelles with thicke troubled poison, you swell with poisonous perturbations, your mallice hath not a cleare dram or anie inspired disposition.

My principall subject pluckes me by the elbowe, Diamante Castaldos the magnificos wife, after my enlargement proued to be with childe, at which instant there grew an insatiable famine in Venice, wherein, whether it were for more niggardise, or that Castaldo will eat out his heart with ieaousie, Saint Anne be our recorde, he turnde up the heeles verie deuoutly. To master Aretine after this, once more verie dutifully I appeald, requested him of fauour, acknowledged

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knowledged former gratuities, hee made no more humming or haulting, but in despite of her husbandes kinsfolkes, gave her her Nunc dimittis, and so establisht her free of my company.

Being out, and fully possess of her husbandes goods, she invested mee in the state of a Monarch. Because the time of child-birth drew nigh, and she could not remaine in Venice but discredited, she decreed to travell whether so ever I would conduct her. To see Italy throughout was my proposed scope, and that waite if she would travel, haue with her, I had wherewithall to relieue her.

From my master by her full hand provokement I parted without leave, the state of an Earle hee had thrust vpon me before, and now I would not bate him an inch of it. Through all the Cities past I by no other name but the yong Earle of Surrey, my pompe, my apparell, traine, and expence, was nothing inferiour to his, my looks were as loftie, my wordes as magnificall. Memorandum, that Florence being the principall scope of my masters course, missing mee, he journeyed thither without interruption. By the waie as he went, he heard of another Earle of Surrey besides himselfe, which caused him make more hast to fetch me in, whom he little dreamed of, had such art in my budget, to separate the shadowe from the bodie. Quertake me at Florence he did, where sitting in my pontificalibus with my curtizan at supper, lyke Anthonie and Cleopatra, when they quafte standing bowles of wine spiced with pearle together, he stole in ere we sent for him, and bad much good it vs, and askt vs whether we wanted anie guests. If he had askt me whether I would haue hangd my selfe, his question had beene more acceptable. He that had then vngartered mee, might haue pluckt out my heart at my hamis.

My soule which was made to soare vpward, now sought for passage downward, my blood as the blushing Sabine maides surprized on the sodain by the souldiers of Romulus, ran to the noblest of blond amongst them for succour, that were in no lesse (if not greater danger) so dyd it runne for refuge to the noblest of his bloude about my heart assembled,

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that stood in moze need it selfe of comfort and refuge. A trembling earthquake or shaking feauer assailed either of vs, and I thinke vnfaignedly, if he seeing our faint heart agonie, had not soone cheered and refreshed vs, the dogs had gone together by the eares vnder the table for our feare-dropped lims.

In stead of menacing or afrighting me with his swoord, or his frownes for my superlatiue presumption, hee burst out into a laughter aboue Cla, to thinke how brauely napping hee had tooke vs, and how notablie we were damp't & stroke dead in the heart, with the vnerpected view of his presence.

Ah quoth he, my noble Lord, (after his tongue had borrowed a little leaue of his laughter) is it my lucke to visite you thus vnlookt for, I am sure you wil bid me welcome, if it be but for the names sake. It is a wonder to see two English Carles of one house, at one time together in Italy. I hearing him so pleasant, began to gather by my spirits, and replide as boldly as I durst. Sir, you are welcome, your name which I haue borrowed I haue not abused. Some large summes of money this my swete mistres Diamante hath made me master of, which I knew not how better to imploy for the honour of my country, than by spending it munificently vnder your name. No English-man would I haue renowned for bounty, magnificence and cortisie but you, vnder your colours all my meritorious workes I was desirous to shroud. Deme if no insolence to adde increase to your fame. Had I basely and beggerly, wanting abilitie to support anie parte of your roialtie, vndertooke the estimation of this high calling, your alledgement of iniury had ben the greater, and my defence lesse authozised. It will be thought but a policie of yours thus to send one before you, who being a follower of yours, shall keepe and vtold the estate and port of an Carle. I haue knowen many Carles my selfe that in their owne persons would go verie plaine, but delighted to haue one that belonged to them (being laden with iewels, apparelled in cloth of golde and all the rich imboderie that might bee, to stand bare headed vnto him, arguing thus much, that if y greatest men went not moze sumptuous, how moze great than the greatest was he that could command one going so sumptuous. A noble mans glorie appeareth in nothing

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thing so much as in the pompe of his attendants. What is the glozie of the Sunne, but that the moone and so many millions of starres bozrow their light from him? If you can reprehend me of anie one illiberall licentious action I haue disparaged your name with, heape shame on me prodigally, I beg no pardon or pittie.

Non veniunt in idem pudor & amor, hee was loth to detract from one that he loued so. Beholding with his eyes that I clipt not the wings of his honoz, but rather increast them with additions of expence, he intreated me as if I had bin an Embassador, he gaue me his hand and swoze he had no moze hearts but one, and I should haue halfe of it, in that I so inhanced his obscured reputation. One thing, quoth he, my swæte Jacke I will intreat thee (it shalbe but one) that though I am wel pleased thou shouldest be the ape of my birtbright, (as what noble man hath not his ape & his foole) yet that thou be an ape without a clog, not carrie thy curtizan with thee. I tolde him that a king could do nothing without his treasury, this curtizan was my purs-bearer, my countenance and suppozter. My earldome I would sooner resigne than part with such a speciall benefactresse. Resigne it I will how euer, since I am thus challenged of stolne goods by the true owner: No, into my former state I retorne againe, poore Jack Wilton and your seruant am I, as I was at the beginning, and so will I perseuer to my lines ending.

What theame was quickly cut off, and other talke entered in place, of what I haue forgot, but talke it was, and talke let it be, and talke it shall be, for I do not meane here to remember it. The supt, we got to bed, we rose in the morning, on my master I waited, and the first thing he did after he was vp, he went and visited the house where his Geraldine was borne, at sight wherof he was so impassioned, that in the open street but for me, he woulde haue made an oration in praise of it. Into it we were conduced, and shewed each several roome therto appertaining. But when he came to the chamber where his Geraldines cleere Sun-beams first thrust themselves into this cloude of flesh, and acquainted mortalitie with the puritie of Angels, then did his mouth ouerflowe with magnificats, his

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tongue thrust the starres out of heauen, and eclipsed the Sun and Moone with comparisons, Geraldine was the soule of heauen, sole daughter and heire to primus motor. The alcumy of his eloquence, out of the incomprehensible & grosse matter of clouds and aire, distilled no more quintessence than would make his Geraldine compleat faire.

In praise of the chamber that was so illuminatiuely honoured with her radiant conception, he penned this sonet.

*Faire roome the presence of sweet beauties pride,
The place the Sunne vpon the earth did hold,
When Phaton his chariot did misguide,
The towre where Iouexaind downe himselfe in gold.
Prostrate as holy ground Ile worship thee,
Our Ladies chappell henceforth be thou nam'd
Heere first loues Queene put on mortalitie,
And with her beautie all the world inflam'd.
Heau'ns chambers harboring fire cherubines,
Are not with thee in glorie to compare,
Lightning it is not light which in thee shines,
None enter thee but straight intranced are.
O if Elizium be aboue the ground,
Then here it is where nought but ioy is found.*

Many other Poems and Epigrams in that chambers patient alabaster inclosure (which her melting eyes long thence had softened) were curiously ingraued. Diamondes thought themselves Dii mundi, if they might but carue hir name on the naked glasse. With them on it did he anatomize these bodie-wanting mots, Dulce puella malum est. Quod fugit ipse sequor. Amor est mihi causa sequendi. O infelix ego. Cur vidi, cur perii. Non patienter amo. Tantum patiatum amari. After the viewe of these veneriall monumentes, he published a proude challenge in the Duke of Florence court agaynst all comers, (whether Christians, Turkes, Canibals, Jewes, or Saracens, in defence

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Defence of his Geraldines beautie. Forc mildly was it accepted, in that she whom he defended, was a to wne bozne child of that Citie, or else the pride of the Italian would haue preuented him ere he should haue come to perforce it. The Duke of Florence neuertheless sent for him, and demanded him of his estate, and the reason that drew him thereto, which when hee was aduertised of to the full, he granted all Countries whatsoeuer, as wel enemies and outlawes, as friends and confederates, free access and regresse into his dominions unmolested, vntill that insolent triall were ended.

The right honourable and ever renowned Lorde Henrie Howard Earle of Surrey my singular good Lorde and master, entered the listes after this order. His armour was all intermixed with lillies and roses, and the bases thereof bordered with nettles and weeds, signifieng stings, crosses, and ouergrowing incumbzances in his loue, his helmet round proportioned like a gardeners water-pot, from which seemed to issue forth small thzids of water, like cisterne stringes, that not onely did moisten the lilles and roses, but did fructifie as well the nettles and weeds, and made them ouergrow their liege Lordes. Whereby hee did impozte thus much, that the teares that issued from his bzaine, as those arteficiall distillations issued from the well counterfett water-pot on his head, watered and gaue life as well to his mistres disdaine (resembled to nettles and weeds) as increase of glozie to her caring beautie, (comprehended vnder the lillies and roses.) The simbole thereto annexed was this, *ex lachrimis lachrimæ*. The trappings of his horse were pounced and bouldstered out with rough plumed silver plush, in full proportion and shape of an Estrich. On the breast of the horse were the forepartes of this greedie birde aduanced, whence as his manner is, hee reacht out his long necke to the raines of the bzidle, thinking they had bene yron, and still seemed to gape after the golden bit, and euer as the courser dyd rayse or curuet, to haue swallowed it halfe in. His winges, which hee neuer vseth but running, beeing spread full sayle, made his lillie feede as proude vnder him as he had bene some other Pegasus, and so quieuerly and tenderly were

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were these his broad wings bound to either side of him, that as he paced vp and downe the tilt-yard in his maiestie ere the knights were entered, they seemed wantonly to fan in his face and make a flickering sound, such as Eagles doe, swiftly pursuing their praye in the ayre. On either of his winges, as the Estrich hath a sharpe goade or picke wherewith hee spurreth himselfe forward in his saile-assisted race, so this artificiall Estrich, on the inbent knuckle of the pinton of either wing, had embossed chrystall eyes affixed, wherein wheelewise were circularly ingrafted sharpe pointed diamonds, as rayes from those eyes deriued, that like the rowels of a spurre ran deepe into his horse sides, and made him more eager in his course.

Such a fine dimme shine bide these chrystall eyes and these round enranked diamonds make through their bolne swelling bowes of feathers, as if it had beene a candle in a paper lanterne, or a gloworme in a bush by night, glittering through the leaues and briers. The taile of the Estrich being short and thicke, serued verie fitly as a plume to tricke by his horse taile with, so that euerie parte of him was as naturally coapted as might be. The word to this deuice was *Aculeo alatus*, I spread my wings onely spurd with her eyes. The moral of the whole is this, that as the Estrich, the most burning sighted bird of all others, insomuch as the female of them hatcheth not hir eggs by couering them, but by the effectual rayes of hir eyes) as he, I saie, outstrippeth the nimblest trippers of his feathered condition in footmanshipp, onely spurd on with the needle quickning goade vnder his side, so hee no lesse burning sighted than the Estrich, spurd on to the race of honoz by the sweete rayes of his mistres eyes, perswaded himselfe hee should outstrip all other in running to the goale of glorie, only animated and incited by her excellence. And as the Estrich will eat iron, swallow anie hard mettall whatsoener, so would he refuse no iron aduenture, no hard taske whatsoener, to sit in the grace of so sayre a commander. The order of his shield was this, it was framed like a burning glasse, beset round with flame coloured feathers, on the outside whereof was his mistres picture adorned as beautifull as art could portrature, on the inside a naked sword tied in a true loue knot, the mot, *Militat omnis a-*

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mans. Signifieng that in a true loue knot his sword was tied to defend and maintaine the high features of his mistres.

Next him entered the blacke knight, whose beauer was pointed all tozne & bloude, as though he had new come from combattng with a Beere, his head piece seemed to bee a little oven fraught full with smothering flames, toz nothing but sulphure and smoake voided out at the cleftes of his beauer. His bases were all imbrodered with snakes & adders, ingendered of the abundance of innocent blood that was shed. His hozles trappings were throughout bespangled with hunnie spottes, which are no blemishes, but ornaments. On his shield hee bare the Sunne full shining on a diall at his going downe, the word sufficit tandem.

After him followed the knight of the Owle, whose armor was a stub tree overgrown with iuie, his helmet fashioned lyke an owle sitting on the top of this iuie, on his bases were wrought all kinde of birdes as on the ground wondering about him, the word, Ideo mirum quia monstrum, his hozles furniture was framed like a cart, scattering whole sheaves of cozne amongst hogs, the word Liberalitas liberalitate perit. On his shield a beere tangled in shépes wooll, the mot Frontis nulla fides. The fourth that succeeded was a well proportioned knight in an armor imitating rust, whose head piece was pe- figured like flowers growing in a narrowe pot, where they had not anie space to spread their roots or disperse their flourishing. His bases embelisht with open armed handes scattering golde amongst trunchions, the word Cura futuri est. His hozse was harnished with leaden chaines, hauing the out-side guilt, or at least saffrond in stead of guilt, to decypher a holie or golden pretence of a couetous purpose, the sentence Cani capilli mei compedes, on his target he had a number of crawling wormes kept vnder by a blocke, the saburthen, Speramus lucent. The fift was the forsaken knight, whose helmet was crowned with nothing but cipresse and willow garlands, ouer his armor he had on Himens nuptiall robe dyed in a duskie yellow, and all to be defaced and discoloured with spots & stains. The enigma Nos quoque florimus, as who should saie, we haue bin in fashion, his head was adorned with orange talonie

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eies, such as those haue that haue the yellowe sandies, that make all things yellow they looke vpon, with this brieft, Qui inuidens egent, Those that ennie are hungrie. The sixth was the knight of the Hoymes, whose helmet was round moulded like the Moone, and all his armour like waues, whereon the shine of the Moone sleightly silver, perfectly represented Moone-shine in the water, his bases were the banks or shores that bounded in the streames. The spoke was this, Frustra pius, as much to say, as fruitles seruice. On his shield he set forth a lion driven from his praise by a dunghill cocke. The worde, Non vis sed voce, not by violence but by his voice.

The seventh had lyke the gyants that sought to scale heauen in despite of Iupiter, a mount ouerwhelming his head and whole bodie. His bases out-layde with armes and legges which the skirts of that mountain left vncouered. Under this did hee characterise a man desirous to climbe to the heauen of honour, kept vnder with the mountaine of his princes command, and yet had hee armes and legges exempted from the suppression of that mountaine. The worde, Tu mihi criminis author (alluding to his Princes command) thou art the occasion of my imputed cowardise. His horse was trapt in the earthie stringes of tree rootes, which though their increase was stubbed downe to the ground, yet were they not utterly dead, but hop'd for an after resurrection. The worde, Spe alor, I hope for a spring. Vpon his shield hee bare a bal' striken downe with a mans hand that it might mount. The worde, Ferior vt esserar, I suffer my selfe to bee contemned because I will climbe. The eighth had all his armour throughout engrayled lyke a crabbed brierie hawthorne bush, out of which notwithstanding sprung (as a good Childe of an ill father) fragraunt Blossomes of delightfull Maye flowers that made (according to the nature of Maye) a most odoriferous smell. In midst of this his snowie curled top, rounde wrapped together, on the ascending of his crest sate a solitarie nightingale close encaged with a thorne at her breast, hauing this mot in her mouth, Luctus monumenta manebunt. At the foote of this bush represented on his bases, lay a number of blacke swolne Loades gasping for winde, and Dunt-
mer

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mer lin'de grasshoppers gaping after deaw, both which were choakt with excessive drought, and for want of shade. The word, *Non sine vulnere viresco*, I spring not without impediments, alluding to the Loades and such lyke, that earst laye sucking at his rootes, but nowe were turnd out, and neere choakt with drought. His horse was suited in blacke sandie earth (as adiacent to this bush) which was here and there patched with short burnt grasse, and as thicke inke dropped with toyling ants & emets as euer it might crall, who in the full of the summer moone, (rubbie garnished on his horses forehead) hounded by theyr prouision of grain agaynst winter. The word *Victrix fortunæ sapientia*, prouidence prevents misfortune. On his shield he set forth the picture of death doing almes deedes to a number of poore desolate children. The word, *Nemo alius explicat*. No other man takes pittie vpon vs. What his meaning was herein I cannot imagine, except death had done him and his brethren some greate good turne in ridding them of some vntoward parent or kinsman that woulde haue bene their confusion, for else I cannot see howe death shoulde haue bene sayde to doe almes deedes, except he had depriued them sodainly of their liues, to deliuer them out of some further miserie, which coulde not in anie wise bee because they were yet liuing.

The ninth was the infant knight, who on his armour had ennameld a poore young infant, put into a shippe without tackling, masts, furniture, or any thing. This weather beaten and ill apparellled shippe was shadowed on his bates, and the slender compasse of his body set forth the right picture of an infant. The wanes wherein the ship was tossed were fretted on his sleads trappings so mouingly, that euer as he offered to bounde or stirre, they seemed to bounce, and tolle, and sparkle bryne out of theyr boarie siluer billowes. Theyr mot, *In opem me copia fecit*, as much to saie, as the rich praye makes the thiefe.

On his shield he expressed an olde Goate that made a young tree to wither onely with biting it. The worde thereto *Primo extinguitur in xuo*. I am frost-bitten ere I come out of the blade.

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It were here too tedious to manifest all the discontented or
amorous deuises y^e were vsed in that turnament. The shieldes
onely of some few I wil touch to make short worke. One bare
for his impresse the eyes of yong swallowes comming againe
after they were pluckt out, with this mot, Et addit et addimit,
your beautie both bereaues and restores my sight. Another a
siren smiling when the sea rageth and ships are ouerwhelm-
ed, including a cruell woman, that laughs, sings and scoynes
at her louers tears, and the tempests of his despaire, the word
Cuncta pereunt, all my labo^r is ill imploid. A third being trou-
bled with a curst, a trecherous and wanton wanton wife, vsed
this similitude. On his shield he caused to be limmed Pompeies
ordnance for paracides, as namely a man put into a sack with
a cocke, a serpent and an ape, interpreting that his wife was
a cocke for her crowing, a serpent for her stinging, and an ape
for her vnconstant wantonnesse, with which ill qualities hee
was so beset, that thereby hee was thowen into a sea of grief.
The word Extremum malorum mulier, The vtmost of e-
uils is a woman. A fourth, who being a person of suspected re-
ligion, was continually hanted with intelligencers and spies
that thought to pryie vpon him for that hee had, he could not
deuise which waie to shake them off, but by making alway that
he had. To obscure this, hee vsed no other fanlie but a number
of blinde flies, whose eyes the colde had closed, the word Aurum
reddit acutissimum, God is the onely phisicke for the eye-sight.
A fifth, whose mistres was fallen into a consumption, and yet
would condescend to no treatie of loue, emblazoned for his com-
plaint, grapes that witherd for want of pressing. The dittie to
the mot, Quid regna sine vsu. I will rehearse no moze, but I
haue an hundred other, let this be the vpsot of these shewes,
they were the admirablest that euer Florence yelded. To par-
ticularize their maner of encounter, were to describe the whol
art of tilting. Some had like to haue fallē ouer their horse neck
and so bzeake their neckes in bzeaking their stauces. Others
ranne at a buckle in stead of a button, & peraduenture whet-
ted their spears pointes, idly gliding on their enemies sides,
but did no other harme. Others ranne a crosse at they^r aduer-
saries left elbow, yea, and by your leaue sometimes let not the
lists

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lists scape scot-free they were so eager. Others because they would be sure not to bee vnseated with the shocks, when they came to the speares vtmost p[er]se, they thrust it ouer the right shoulde[r], and so tilted backward, so2 so2warde they durst not. Another had a monstrous spite at the pommel of his rivals saddle, and thought to haue thrust his speare t[hr]w[ist] his legges without raising anie skinne, and carried him cleane a waie on it as a roole staffe. Another held his speare to his nose, o2 his nose to his speare, as though he had ben discharging a caluer, and ranne at the right foote of his fellowes stead. Onely the earle of Surry my master obserued y[et] true measures of hono[r], and made all his encounterers new scoure their armes in the dust. So great was his glorie y[et] date, as Geraldine was thereby eternally glorified. Neuer such a bountifull master came amongst the heraldes (not that he did enrich the with anie plentifull purse largesse) but that by his sterne assaults hee tithed them more rich chaffs of baces, of helmets, of armour, than the rent of their offices came to in ten yerres before.

What would you haue more, the trumpets proclaimed him master of the field, the trumpets proclaimed Geraldine the exceptionlesse fayrest of women. Euerie one strived to magnifie him more than other. The Duke of Florence, whose name (as my memorie serueth me) was Paschal de Medices, offered him such large proffers to staie with him as it were incredible to report. He would not, his desire was as hee had done in Florence, so to procede th[roughout] all the chiefe cities in Italy. If you aske why he began not this at Venice first. It was because he would let Florence his mistres natine citie haue the maidenhead of his chivalrie. As hee came backe againe hee thought to haue enacted something there woorthie the Annals of posteritie, but he was debarred both of that and all his other determinations, so2 continuing in feasting and banquetting with the Duke of Florence and the Princes of Italy there assembled, post-hast letters came to him from the king his master, to returne as speedily as he could possible into England, wherby his fame was quite cut off by the shins, and there was no rep[ar]t but Bazelus manus, hee must into England, and I with my curtizan travelled so2ward in Italy.

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What aduentures happened him after we parted, I am ignorant, but Florence we both forsooke, and I hauing a wonderful ardent inclination to see Rome the Queen of the world, & metropolitane mistres of all other cities, made thether with my bag and baggage as fast as I could.

Attained thether, I was lodged at the house of one Iohannes de Imola a Roman cauallero. Also being acquainted with my curtisane deceased doting husband, for his sake also vs with all the familiaritie that might be. He shewed vs all the monuments that were to be seene, which are as many as ther haue bene Emperours, Consuls, Orators, Conquerours, famous painters or plaiers in Rome. Till this daie not a Romane (if he be a right Romane in deed) will kill a rat, but he will haue some registred remembrance of it. There was a poore fellowe during my remainder ther, that for a new trick he had inuented of killing Cymels & scorpions, had his mountebank banner hung vp on a high pillar, with an inscription about it longer than the king of Spaines stile. I thought these Cymelles like the Cimbrians had bene some strange nation hee had brought vnder, & they were no moze but things like sheepe lice, which aline haue the venomost sting that may be, and being dead do stinke out of measure. Saint Austen compareth heretiques vnto them. The chiefest thing that my eyes delighted in, was the church of the 7. Sibels, which is a most miraculous thing. All their prophecies and oracles being there enroulde, as also the beginning and ending of their whole catalogue of the heathen Gods, with their manner of worship. There are a number of other shynes and statues also dedicated to their Emperours, and withal some statues of idolatrie reserved for detestation. I was at Pontius Pilates house and pist against it. There is the prison yet packt vp together (an old rotten thing) where the man that was condemned to death, and could haue no bodie come to him and succour him but was searcht, was kept alive a long space by sucking his daughters breasts.

These are but the shop dust of the sights that I saw, and in truth I dyd not beholde with anie care hereafter to report, but contented my eie for the present, and so let them passe. Should I memoize halfe the myzacles which they there tolde me

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me had bene done about martyrs tombes, or the operations of the earth of the sepulchre, and other reliques brought from Ierusalem, I should bee counted the monstrous lier that euer came in print.

The ruines of Pompeies theater, reputed one of the nine wonders of the worlde, Gregory the sixth Tombe, Priscillas Crate, or the thousands of Pillers arreared amongst the raised foundations of old Rome, it were heere frivolous to specifie: since he that hath but once drunk with a traueller talks of them. Let mee bee a Historiographer of my owne misfortunes, and not meddle with the continued Trophies of so olde a triumphing Citie.

At my first comming to Rome, I being a youth of the English cut, ware my haire long, went apparailled in light colours, and imitated foure or five sundrie fashions in my attyre at once: which no sooner was noated, but I had all the boyes of the Citie in a swarme wondering about mee. I had not gone a little farther, but certaine Officers crost the waie of me, and demanded to see my rapier: which when they found (as also my dagger) with his poynnt vnblunted, they would haue hal'd me headlong to the Strappado, but that with money I appeased them: and my fault was moze pardonable, in that I was a stranger, altogether ignorant of their customes.

Note by the waye, that it is the vse in Rome, for all men whatsoeuer to weare their haire short: which they doo not so much for conscience sake, or anie religion they place in it, but because the extremitie of the heate is such there, that if they should not doo so, they should not haue a haire left on their heads to stand vp right, when they were scared with sprights. And hee is counted no Gentleman amongst them that goes not in black: they dresse their iesters and fooles onely in fresh colours, and say variable garments doe argue vnstayednes and vnconstancie of affections.

The reason of their straight ordinance for carrying weapons without points is this. The Bandettos, which are certaine outlawes that lye betwixt Rome & Naples, and besiege the passage that none can trauell that way without robbing:

note

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Now and then hired for some few crownes, they will steale to Rome and doe a murther, and be'ake them to their beles againe. Disguised as they go, they are not known from strangers, sometimes they will shroude themselves vnder the habite of graue citizens. In this consideration neither citizen nor stranger, gentleman, knight, marques, or any may weare anie weapon endamageable vpon paine of the strappado. I bought it out, let others buy experience of me better cheape.

To tell you of the rare pleasures of their gardens, their baths, their vineyards, their galleries, were to write a second part of the gorgeous Gallerie of gallant deuices. Why, you should not come into anie mans house of account, but hee had fish-ponds and litle orchards on the top of his leads. If by rain or anie other meanes those ponds were so full they need to bee haste or let out, euen of their superfluities they made melodious vse, for they had great winde instruments in stead of leaden spoutes, that went duely in consort, onely with this waters rumbling discent. I saw a summer banketting house belonging to a marchant, that was the mervaille of the worlde, & could not be matcht except God should make another paradise. It was builde rounde of græne marble, like a Theater without, within there was a heauen and earth comprehended both vnder one roose, the heauen was a clære overhanging vault of chyzistall, wherein the Sunne and Moone, and each visible Starre had his true similitude, shine, scituation, and motion, and by what enwrapped arte I cannot conceiue, these spheares in their proper orbes obserued their circular workings and turnings, making a certaine kinde of soft angelical murmuring musicke in their often windings & going about, which musick the philosophers say in the true heauen by reason of the grosenes of our senses we are not capable of. For the earth it was counterfetted in that likenes that Adam lodged out it befoze his fall. A wide vast spacious roome it was, such as we would conceit prince Arthurs hall to be, where he seated all his knightes of the round table together euerie pentecost. The flooze was painted with y^e beautifullest floures that euer mans eie admired, which so lineally wer delineated, that he that viewed them a farre off, and had not directly good po-
ring

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ringly ouer them, would haue strogne they had lined in dæde. The wals round about were hedgde with Oliues and palme trees, and all other odoziferous fruit-bearing plants, which at anie solemne intertainment dyopt mirrhe and frankensence. Other trees þ̄ bare no fruit, were set in iustjorder one against another, and diuided the roome into a number of shadie lanes, leauing but one ouer-spreading pine tree arbour, where wee sate and banketted. On the well clothed boughes of this conspiracie of pine trees against the resembled Sunne beames, were pearcht as many soytes of shzill bzeasted birdes, as the Summer bath allowed for singing men in her siluane chapels. Who though there were bodie without soules, & sweete resembled substances without sense, yet by the mathematicall experimentes of long siluer pipes secretly inrinded in the intrailles of the boughs whereon they sate, and vndiscerneable conuaid vnder their bellies into their small throats sloaping, they whistled and freely carold theyr naturall field note. Nay, ther went those siluer pipes straight, but by manegedged vnsundzed wozithings, & crankled wandzings aside strayed from bough to bough into an hundzed throates. But into this siluer pipe so wozithed and wandering aside, if anie demand how the wind was bzeathed. Forsoth þ̄ tail of the siluer pipe stretcht it selfe into the mouth of a great paire of bellows, where it was close soldered, and bailde about with yron, it coulde not stirre or haue anie vent betwixt. Those bellows with the rising and falling of leaden plummetts wounde vp on a wheele, dyd beate vp and downe vncessantly, and so gathered in wind, seruing with one blast all the snarled pipes to and fro of one tree at once. But so closely were all those organizing implements obscured in the corpulent trunks of the trees, that euerie man there present renounst coniectures of art, and sayd it was done by inchantment.

One tree for his fruit bare nothing but inchained chiriping birdes, whose throates beeing conduit pipit with squared narrow shels, & charged string-wise with searching sweet water, dyuen in by a little wheele for the nonce, that fed it a farre of, made a spirting sound, such as chirping is, in bubbling vpwads through the rough crannies of their closed bills.

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Under tuition of the shade of euerie tree that I haue signi-
fied to be in this round hedge, on delightfull leaue cloysters,
lay a wyld tyrannous beast asleepe all prostrate: vnder some
two together, as the Dogge nuzzling his nose vnder the necke
of the Deare, the Wolfe glad to let the Lambe lye vpon hym
to keepe him warme, the Lyon suffering the Ass to cast his
legge ouer him: preferring one honest vnmannerly friend, be-
foze a number of croutching picke-thankes. No poysonous
beast there repored, (poyson was not befoze our parent Adam
transgressed). Therē were no swarte-breathing Panthers,
that would hyde their terrifying heads to betraye: no men
imitating Hyænaes, that chaunged their fire to seeke after
bloud. Wolves as now when they are hungrie eate earth,
so then did they feede on earth onely, and abstained from inno-
cent flesh. The Unicorne did not put his horne into the
streame to chase away venome befoze he drunke, for there
was no such thing as venome extant in the water or on the
earth. Serpents were as harmlesse to mankind, as they
are still one to another: the rose had no cankers, the leaues no
caterpillers, the sea no Syrens, the earth no vsurers. Coates
then bare wolle, as it is recozded in Sicily they doe yet. The
foule Zone was habitable: onely Tapes loued to steale gold
and siluer to build their nests withall, and none cared for co-
uetous clientrie, or running to the Indies. As the Elephant
vnderstands his countrey speech, so euerie beast vnderstood
what men spoke. The ant did not hooze by against winter, for
there was no winter but a perpetuall spring, as Ouid sayth.
No frosts to make the greene almonde tree counted rash and
improuident, in budding soonest of all other: or the mulberie
tree a strange politician, in blowing late and ripening early.
The peach tree at the first planting was fructfull and whole-
some, wheras now til it be transplanted, it is poysonous and
hatefull. Pong plants for their sap had balme, for their yel-
low gumme glistering amber. The euening deawd not wa-
ter on flowers, but bonnie. Such a golden age, such a good
age, such an honest age was set forth in this banquetting
house.

¶ Rome, if thou hast in thee such soule-exalting objects:
what

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What a thing is heauen in comparison of thee, of which Mercators globe is a perfecter modell than thou art? Yet this I must say to the shame of vs Protestants, if good woꝝkes may merit heauen, they do them, we talke of them. Whether superstition or no makes the vnprofitable seruants, that let pulpets decide: but there, you shall haue the bruest Ladies in gownes of beaten gold, washing pilgrimes and poꝛe souldiours feete, and doing nothing they and their wayting mayds all the yeare long, but making shirts and bandes for them against they come by in distresse. Their hospitalls are moze like noble-mens houses than otherwise: so richly furnished, cleane kept, and hot perfumed, that a souldiour would thinke it a sufficient recompence for his trauell and his wounds, to haue such a heauenly retying place. For the Pope and his pontificalibus I will not deale with, onely I will dilate vnto you what hapned whyles I was in Rome.

So it fell out, that it being a vehement hot summer when I was a sojourner there, there entred such a hottspurd plague as hath not ben heard of: why it was but a word and a blow, Lord haue mercie vpon vs, and he was gone. Within thre quarters of a yere in that one citie there dyed of it a hundred thousand: Look in Lanquets Chronicle and you shall finde it. No smell of a nosegay, that was poysond: and turne your nose to a house, that had the plague, it was all one. The clouds like a number of cormorants, that keepe their coꝛne till it stinke and is mustie, kept in their stinking exhalations, till they had almost stifled all Romes inhabitants. Whistions, grædines of golde made them grædie of their destinie. They would come to visite those, with whose infirmities their arte had no affinitie: and euen as a man with a scæ should bee byzed to hang himselfe, so would they quietly goe home and dye presently after they had ben with their patients. All day and all night long carre-men did nothing but goe vp and downe the streetes with their carts and crye, Haue you anie dead to burie, haue you anie dead to burie: and had manie times out of one house their whole loading: one graue was the sepulcher of seuen-score, one bed was the altar whereon whole families were offered.

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The wals were hoard and furd with the most scorching steame of their desolation. When as befoze a gun is shot off, a stinking smoake funnels out, and pze pares the waie fo2 him, so befoze anie gaue vp the ghost. death araied in a stinking smoke stopt his nostrils, and cramd it selfe full into his mouth, that closed vp his fellowes eyes, to giue him warning to pze pare fo2 his funeral. Some bide sitting at their meate, others as they were asking counsell of the phisition fo2 their friendes. I saw at the house where I was hosted, a maide bzing her master warme b2oth fo2 to comfort him, and she linke downe dead her self ere he had halfe eat it vp.

During this time of visitation, there was a Spaniard, one Esdras of Granado, a notable Bandetto, authorized by y^e pope, because he assisted him in some murthers. This villain collegued with one Bartol a desperate Italian, practised to breake into those rich mens houses in the night where the plague had most rained, and if there were none but the mi2dres and maid left alieue, to rauish them both, and bring awaie all the wealth they could fasten on. In a hundred chief citizens houses where the hand of God had bin, they put this outrage in bze. Though the women so rauished cride out, none durst come nere them, fo2 feare of catching their deaths by them, & some thought they cried out onely with the tyrannie of the maladie. Amongst the rest the house where I lay he intruded, where all being snatcht vp by the sicknesse but the good wife of the house, a noble and chaste matrone called Heraclide and her Zanie, and I & my curtizan, he knocking at the doze late in the night, ranne in to the matrone, & left me and my loue to the mercie of his companion. Who finding me in bed (as the time requir2d) ranne at me full with his rapier, thinking I would resist him, but as good lucke was I escapt him & betooke me to my pistoll in the window vncharged. He fearing it had bene charged, thzeatned to run her thzough if I once offered but to aime at him. Foozth y^e chamber he dragd her, holding his rapier at hir hart, whilest I sturrid out, Saue her, kil me, & Ile ransom her with a thousand duckets: but lust pzeuailed, no pzaiers would be heard. Into my chamber I was lockt, and watchmen charged (as he made semblance when there was none there) to knocke mee downe

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downe with theit halberdes, if I stirde but a foote downe the
staires. So threw I my selfe penſive againe on my pallat, and
dard all the devils in hell now I was alone to come and fight
with me one after another in defence of that detestable rape. I
beat my head against the wals and cald them hands, because
they wold see such a wrong committed, and not fall vpon him.
So returne to Heraclide below, whom the ugliest of all bloud
suckers Esdras of Granado had vnder thrist. First he assailed
her with rough meanes, and slew her Zanie at her foote, that
slept befoze her in rescue. When when al armed resist was put
to flight, he assailed her with honie speech, & promised her moze
iewells and gites than hee was able to pilfer in an hundred
yeres after. He discourst vnto her how he was countenanced
and borne out by the pope, and how many execrable murders
with impunitie he had executed on them that displeasde him.
This is the right scoze house (quoth he) that hath done homage
vnto me, and here I will pzeuaile, or I will bee tozne in pie-
ces. Ah quoth Heraclide (with a hart renting sigh) art thou or-
dained to be a worse plague to me than y plague it selfe? Wane
I escapt the hands of God to fall into the hands of man? Heare
me Ichouah, & be mercifull in ending my miserie. Dispatch me
incontinent dissolute homicide deaths vsurper. Here lies my
husband stoned colde on the dewie flooze. If thou hast of moze
power than God, to strike me speedily, strike home, strike deep,
send me to heauen with my husband. Aie me, it is the spoyle of
my beno: thou seekst in my soules troubled departure, thou
art some devill sent to tempt me. Auoide from me sathan, my
soule is my sauiours, to him I have bequeathed it, from him
can no man take it. Jesu, Jesu spare mee vndeſiled for thy
srouse, Jesu, Jesu neuer faile those that put their trust in thee.
With that she fell in a swoone, and her eyes in their closing se-
med to spaune forth in their out ward sharpe corners new cre-
ated seed pearle, which the world befoze never set eie on. Wone
he rigorously revined her, & tolde her y he had a charter aboue
scripture, she must yeld, she should yeld, see who durst remove
her out of his hands. Twixt life and death thus she faintly re-
plied. How thinkest thou, is there a power aboue thy power,
if there be, he is here pzeſent in punishment, and on thee will

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Take present punishment if thou persistest in thy enterpryse. In the tyme of securitie euerie man sinneth, but when death substitutes one friend his special bayly to arrest another by infection, and dispearseth his quiver into ten thousand hands at once, who is it but lookes about him? A man that hath an vncuitable huge stone hanging only by a haire over his head, which he lookes euerie Water noster while to fall and pass him in peeces, will not he be submissiuelly sorrowfull for his transgressions, refraine himselfe from the least thought of folly, and purifie his spirit with contrition and penitence? Gods hand like a huge stone hangs ineuitably over thy head: what is the plague, but death playing the prouost marshall, to execute all those that wil not be called home by anie other meanes. This my deare knights body is a quiver of his arrowes, which already are shot into thee inuisible. Euen as the age of goates is known by the knots on their hoznes, so think the anger of God apparantly visioned or shorne vnto thee in the knitting of my browes. A hundred haue I buried out of my house, at all whose departures I haue been present: a hundreds infection is mixed with my breath, loe, now I breathe vpon thee, a hundred deaths come vpon thee. Repent betimes, imagine there is a hell though not a heauen: that hell thy conscience is thoroughly acquainted with, if thou hast murdred halfe so manie, as thou vnblushingly braggest. As Moeccenas in the latter end of his dayes was seuen yeres without sleepe, so these seuen weekes haue I took no slumber, my eyes haue kept continuall watch against the diuell my enemy: death I deemed my friend (friends flie from vs in aduersitie), death, the diuell & al the ministring spirits of temptation are watching about thee to intrap thy soule by my abuse to eternall damnation. It is thy soule only thou maist save by sauing mine hono^r. Death will haue thy bodie infallibly for breaking into my house, that he had selected for his priuate habitation. If thou ener camst of a woman, or hop'st to be sau'd by the seed of a woman, spare a woman. Deares oppressed with dogs, when they cannot take soyle, runne to men for succo^r: to whom should women in their disconsolate and desperate estate run, but to men like the Deare for succour and sanctuarie. If thou bee a man thou wilt

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wilt succour me, but if thou be a dog & a brute beast, thou wilt spoile me, defile me & teare me: either renounce Gods image, or renounce the wicked minde that thou bearest.

These words might haue mou'd a compound hart of yron and adamant, but in his hart they obtained no impression: for he sitting in his chaire of state against the doore all the while that she pleaded, leaning his ouerhanging glomie ey-browes on the pommell of his vntheathed sword, he neuer lookt vp or gaue her a word: but when he perceiued she expected his answer of grace or bitter perdition, he start vp and took her curiously by the neck, and askt her how long he should stay for her Ladiship. Thou telst me (quoth he) of the plague, and the heauie hand of God, and thy hundred infected breaths in one: I tel thee I haue cast the dice an hundred times for the galleys in Spaine, and yet still mist the ill chance. Our order of casting is this, If there bee a generall or captaine new come home from the warres, & hath some foure or fife hundred crownes ouerplus of the kings in his hand, & his souldiours al paid, he makes proclamation, that whatsoener two resolute men will goe to dice for it, and win the bydle or lose the saddle, to such a place let them repaire, and it shall be ready for them. Whither go I & finde another such needie squire resident. The dice runne, I win, he is vndone. I winning haue the crownes, he losing is carried to the galleys. This is our custome, which a hundred times and more hath paid mee custome of crownes, when the poore fellows haue gone to Gehenna, had course bread and whipping there all their life after. Now thinkest thou that I who so oft haue escapd such a number of hellish dangers, only depending on the turning of a few pichs, can be scare-bugd with the plague? what plague canst thou name worse than I haue had? whether diseases, imprisonment, povertie, banishment, I haue past through them all. My owne mother gaue I a box of the care to, and brake her neck down a pair of stairs, because she would not go in to a gentleman, when I bad her: my sister I solde to an olde Leno, to make his best of her: a nie kinsweman that I haue, knew I she were not a whoze, my selfe would make her one: thou art a whoze, thou shalt bee a whoze in spite of religion or precise ceremonies.

There

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Therewith he flew vpon her, and threated her with his sword, but it was not that he meant to wounde her with. He graspt her by the iuorie throte, and shoke her as a mastiffe would shake a yong beare, swearing & staring he would teare out her weland if she refused. Not content with that savage constraint, he lipt his sacriligious hand from her lilly latone skinned necke, and inscarfte it in her long fluer lockes, which with strugling were vnrould. Backward hee dragd her, euen as a man backward would plucke a tree downe by the twigs, and then like a traitor that is drawen to execution on a hurdle, he traileth her vp and downe the chamber by those tender but twisted bzards, and setting his barbarous fote on her bare snowie breast, bad her yeld or haue her wind stamp out. She criid, stamp, stifle me in my hair, hang me vp by it on a beame, and so let mee die rather than I shoulde go to heauen wpth a beame in my eie. So (quoth he) no stamp, no stifled, no hanging, no to heauen shalt thou go til I haue had my wil of thee, thy busie armes in these silken fetters I le in fold. Dismissing her haire from his fingers, and pinnioning her elbows therewithal, she strugled, she wrested, but al was in vain. So strugling & so resisting, her iewels did sweate, signifieng there was poison comming towards her. On the hard boozds hee thzew her, and vled his knee as an yron ram to beate ope the two leaude gate of her chasttie. Her husbands dead bodie he made a pillow to his abomination. Coniecture the rest, my woords sticke fast in the mire and are cleane tyed, would I had neuer vndertooke this tragicall tale. Whatsoener is bozne is bozne to haue end. Thus endeth my tale, his bozish lust was glutted, his beastly desire satisfied, what in the house of any woorth was carriage-able, he put vp and went his way.

Let not your sorrow die, you that haue read the proeme and narratio of this elegiacal history. Shew you haue quick wits in sharpe conceit of compassion. A woman that hath biewd all her children sacrificed before her eies, & after the first was flaine wipt the sword with her apzon to prepare it for the cleanly murder of the second, and so on forwarde till came to the empierring of the seuenteenth of her loines, will you not giue her great allowance of anguish. This woman, this matrone,
this

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this forsaken Heraclide, hauing buried fourtēne childzen in
fue dayes, whose eyes she howlingly closed, and caught many
wincles with funerall kisses: besides, hauing her husband
within a day after layd forth as a comfortlesse coise, a carri-
only block, that could neither eate with her, speak with her,
nor wepe with her, is she not to be bozne withall though her
bodie swells wth a tympanie of teares, though her speech
be as impatient as vnhappy Hecubacs, though her head raues
and her bzaine doates: Deuise with your selues that you see
a coise rising from his beirce after hee is carried to Church,
and such another suppose Heraclide to bee, rising from the
couch of enforced adulterie.

Her eyes were dimme, her cheekes bloudlesse, her breath
smelt earthie, her countenance was ghastly. Up she rose af-
ter she was deflowred, but loath she arose, as a reprobate soule
rising to the day of iudgement. Looking on the one side as she
rose, she spide her husbands bodie lying vnder her head: Ah
then she betwayled as Cephalus when hee had kild Procris vn-
wittingly, or Oedipus when ignorant he had slaine his owne
father, and known his mother incestuously. This was her
subdued reasons discourse.

Haue I liu'd to make my husbands bodie the bēre to carry
me to hell, had filthie pleasure no other pillows to leane vpon
but his spreaded limmes? On thy flesh my fault shall bee im-
printed at the day of resurrection. O beauty, the bait ordained
to insnare the irreligious: rich men are robd for theyr welth,
women are dishonested for being too faire. No blessing is beau-
tie but a curse: curst bee the time that euer I was begotten:
curst be the time that my mother brought me forth to tempt.
The serpent in paradise did no more, the serpent in paradise
is damned sempiternally: why should not I hold my selfe
damned (if predestinations opinions be true) that am prede-
stinate to this horrible abuse. The hogge dieth presently if he
loseth an eye: with the hogge haue I wallowed in the myre,
I haue lost my eye of honestie, it is cleane pluckt out with a
strong hand of vnchastitie: what remaineth but I dye? Die
I will, though life be vnwilling: no recompence is there for
mee to redēme my compelled offence, but with a rigorous

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compelled death. Husband, Ile be thy wife in beauen: let not thy pure deceasing spirite despise me when we meete, because I am tyrannously polluted. The diuell, the belier of our frailtie, and common accuser of mankind, cannot accuse me though he would of unconstrained submitting. If anie guilt be mine, this is my fault, that I did not defoyme my face, ere it shuld so impiouly allure. Hauing passioned thus a while, she hastily ranne and lookt her selfe in her glasse to see if her sinne were not witten on her forehead: with looking shee blusht though none lookt vpon her but her owne reflected image.

Then began she againe. Heu quam difficile est crimen non prodere vultu; How hard is it not to bewray a mans fault by his forehead. My selfe doe but behold my selfe, and yet I blusht: then God beholding me, shall not I bee ten times more ashamed? The Angells shall bisse at mee, the Saints and Martyrs flye from me: yea, God himselfe shall adde to the diuels damnation, because he suffered such a wicked creature to come before him. Agamemnon thou wert an infidell, yet when thou wentst to the Troian warre, thou leftst a Musitian at home with thy wife, who by playing the softe Spondæus tyll thy returne, might keepe her in chastitie. My husband going to warre with the diuell and his enticements when hee surrendred, left no musition with me but mourning and melancholy: had he left anie, as Aegisthus kild Agamemnons musition ere he could be successfull, so surely would he haue been kild ere this Aegisthus surceased. My distressed heart as the Hart when he loseth his hoznes is affonted, and sorrowfullie runneth to hide himselfe, so bee thou afflicted and distressed, hide thy selfe vnder the Almightyes wings of mercie: sue, plead, intreate, grace is neuer denyed to them that aske. It may be denied, I may be a vessel ordained to dishonour. The onely repeale we haue from Gods vndefinite chastisement, is to chastise our selues in this world: and so I will, nought but death bee my pennance, gracious and acceptable may it bee: my hand and my knife shall manumit me out of the hozroz of minde I endure. Farewell life that hast lent me nothing but sorrow: farewell sinne sowed floure, that hast moze weeds than flowers, moze woes than ioyes.

Point

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Point pierce, edge enwyden, I patiently affoord thee a sheath:
spurre forth my soule to mount poast to heauen. Jesu for-
giue me, Jesu receiue me.

So thzoughly stabb fell she downe, and knockt her head a-
gainst her husbands bodie: wherewith, hee not hauing bene
ayzed his full foure and twentie houres, start as out of a
dzeame: whiles I thzough a crannie of my vpper chamber
vnscled, had beheld all this sad spectacle. Awaking, hee rubb
his head to and fro, and wypping his eyes with his hand be-
gan to looke about him. Feeling some thing lye beaule on his
bzeast, he turnd it off, and getting vpon his legges lighted a
candle.

Heere beginneth my purgatorie. For he good man com-
ming into the hall with the candle, and spying his wife wyth
her haire about her eares defiled and massacred, and his sim-
ple Zanie Capestrano run thzough, toke a halberde in hys
hand, and running from chamber to chamber to search who
in his house was likely to doo it. at length found me lying on
my bed, the doze lockt to me on the out-side, and my rapier
vnscathed on the windowe: wherewith hee straight conie-
ctured it was I. And calling the neighbours harde by, sayd
I had caused my selfe to bee lockt into my chamber after that
sort, sent away my curtizane whome I called my wife, and
made cleane my rapier, because I would not bee suspected.
Vppon this was I laide in prison, should haue been hanged,
was bzought to the ladder, had made a ballet for my farewell
in a readines called Wiltons wantonnes, and yet for all that
scap'd dancing in a hempen circle. He that hath gone thzough
manie perils and returned safe from them, makes but a mer-
riment to dilate them. I had the knot vnder my eare, there
was faire playe, the hangman had one halter, and another a-
bout my necke, which was fastned to the gallowes, the riding
denice was almost thzost home, and his fote on my shoulder
to presse me downe, when I made my saint-like confession as
you haue heard before, that such & such men at such an houre
bzake into the house, slew the Zanie, toke my curtizan, lockt
me into my chamber, rauisht Heraclide, and finally how shee
slew her selfe.

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Present at the execution was there a banisht English Earle, who hearing that a countreyman of his was to suffer for such a notable murder, came to heare his confession, and see if hee knew him. He had not heard me tell halfe of that I haue recited, but hee craued audience, and desired the execution might be staied.

Not two dayes since it is Gentlemen and noble Romanes (saide he) since going to be let blood in a barbars shop agaynst the infection, all on a suddaine in a great tumult and uproare was there brought in one Bartoll an Italian greuously wounded and bloudie. I seeming to commiserate his harmes, courteously questiond him with what ill debtors he had met, or how or by what casualtie he came to be so arraid. He quoth he long I haue liu'd swozne brothers in sensualitie with one Esdras of Granado, fve hundred rapes and murders haue wee committed betwixt vs. When our iniquities were growen to the height, and God had determined to counterchecke our amitie, wee came to the house of Iohannes de Imola (whom this yong gentleman hath named) there did he iustifie al those rapes in manner and forme as the prisoner here hath confest. But loe an accident after, which neither he nor this audience is priuie to. Esdras of Granado not content to haue rauisht the matrone Heraclide and robbd her, after he had betooke hym from thence to his heeles, light on his companion Bartol with his curtizan: whose pleasing face hee had scarce winkingly glaunc'd on, but hee pickt a quarrell with Bartoll to haue her from him. On this quarrell they fought, Bartoll was wounded to the death, Esdras fled, and the faire dame left to go whither she would. This Bartoll in the barbars shoppe freely acknowledged, as both the barbar and his man, and other heere present can amply depose. Deposed they were, their oathes went for currant, I was quit by proclamation, to the banisht Earle I came to render thanks: when thus he examind me and schold me.

Countriman, tell mee what is the occasion of thy straying so farre out of England to visit this strange Nation. If it bee languages, thou maist learne them at home, nought but lasciuiousnes is to be learned here. Perhaps to be better accounted
led

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ted of than other of thy condition, thou ambitiously vnder-
tackest this voyage: these insolent fancies are but Icarus fetters,
whose wanton way melted against the sunne, will betray thee
into a sea of confusion. The first traueller was Cayn, and hee
was called a bagabond runnagate on the face of the earth.
Trauaile like the trauaile wherein smithes put wilde hoz-
ses when they shew them, is good for nothing but to tame and
bring men vnder. God had no greater curse to lay vpon the
Israelites, than by leading them out of their owne countrey to
liue as slaues in a strange land. That which was their curse,
we Englishmen count our chief blessednes; he is no body that
hath not traueled: wee had rather liue as slaues in another
land, crouch and cap, and bee seruile to euerie iealous Itali-
ans and proude Spaniards humoꝝ, where wee may nexter
speake looke no; doe anie thing, but what pleaseth them: than
liue as free-men and Lords in our owne countrey. He that is
a traueller must haue the backe of an asse to beare all, a tongue
like the taylor of a dog to flatter all, the mouth of a hog to eate
what is set before him, the eare of a merchant to heare all and
say nothing: and if this be not the highest step of thraldome,
there is no libertie or freedom. It is but a milde kind of sub-
iection to be the seruant of one master at once, but when thou
hast a thousand thousand masters, as the veriest botcher, tin-
ker or cobbler freeborne wil dominere ouer a foꝛreiner, & think
to bee his better or master in company: then shalt thou finde
theres no such hell, as to leaue thy fathers house (thy natural
habitation) to liue in the land of bondage. If thou doest but
lend halfe a looke to a Romans or Italians wiffe, thy poꝛredge
shall bee prepared for thee, and cost thee nothing but thy life.
Chance some of them breake a bitter iest on thee, and thou re-
toꝛtst it seuerly, or seemest discontented: goe to thy chamber, &
prouide a great banquet, for thou shalt bee sure to bee visited
with guests in a maske the next night, when in kindnes and
courtship thy throate shall be cut, and the doers returne vndis-
couered. Nothing so long of memoꝛie as a dog, these Italians
are old dogs, and will carrie an iniurie a whole age in memo-
rie: I haue heard of a boy on the eare that hath been reuenged
thirtie yeare after, The peopolitane carrieth the bloudie

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weakefull minde, and is the most secrete clearing murderer. Whereupon it is growne to a common pꝛouerbe, He giue him the Neapolitan Shrug, when one meanes to play the villaine, and makes no boast of it.

The onely pꝛecept that a traueller hath most vse of, and shall finde most ease in, is that of Epicharchus, *Vigila & memor sis ne quid credas*; Beloeue nothing, trust no man: yet seeme thou as thou swallowedst all, suspectedst none, but wert easie to be gulled by euery one. *Multi fallere docuerunt* (as Seneca saith) dum timent falli; Many by shewing their iealous suspect of deceit, haue made men seek moze subtill meanes to deceiue them. Alas, our Englishmen are the plainest dealing soules that euer God put life in: they are greedy of newes, and loue to be fed in their humors and heare themselves flattered the best that may be. Euen as Philemon a Comick Poet dyde with extreame laughter at the conceit of seeing an Asse eate fygges: so haue the Italians no such sport, as to see poze English asses how soberly they swallow Spanish figges deuour any booke baited for them. He is not fit to trauell, that cannot with the Candians liue on serpents, make nourishing fode euen of payson. Kats and mice engender by licking one another, he must like, he must crouch, he must cogge, lye and pꝛate, that either in the Court or a foraine Countrey will engender and come to pꝛeferment. Bes his feature what it will, if he be faire spoken he winneth frends: *Non formosus erat, sed erat facundus Vlysses*; Vlysses the long traueller was not amiable, but eloquent. Some alleadge, they trauell to learne wit, but I am of this opinion, that as it is not possible for anie man to learne the Arte of Memorie, wherof Tully, Quintillian, Seneca, and Hermannus Buschius haue written so manie booke, except he haue a naturall memoꝛie befoze: so is not possible for anie man to attaine anie great wit by trauell, except he haue the grounds of it rooted in him befoze. That wit which is thereby to be perfected or made stayd, is nothing but *Experientia longa malorum*; The experience of manie euills: the experience that such a man lost his life by this folly, another by that: such a young Gallant consumed his substance on such a Curtizan: these courses of reuenge a Merchant

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chant of Venice toke against a Merchant of Ferrara: and this
poynt of iustice was shewed by the Duke vppon the murthe-
rer. What is heere but wee maye read in Lookes and a great
deale moze too, without stirring our seate out of a warme stu-
die. Vobis alii ventorum praelia narrent, (saith Ouid)

Quasq; Scilla infestat, quasue Charybdis aquas.

Let others tell you wonders of the winde,

How Scilla or Charybdis is enclinde.

-vos quod quisque loquetur

Credite- Belæue you what they say, but neuer trie.

So let others tell you straunge accidents, treasons, poyson-
ings, close packings in Fraunce, Spaine and Italy: it is no
harme for you to heare of them, but come not neere them.
What is there in Fraunce to be leard moze than in England,
but falshood in fellowship, perfect flouerie, to loue no man but
for my pleasure, to sweare Ah parla mort Dieu when a mans
hammes are scabb. For the idle Traueller, (I meane not
for the Souldiour). I haue knowen some that haue continu-
ed there by the space of halfe a dozen yeare, and when they
come home, they haue byd a little wetherish leane face under a
broad French hat, kept a terrible coyle with the dust in the
streete in their long cloakes of gray paper, and spoke English
strangely. Nought else haue they profited by their trauell,
saue learnt to distinguish of the true Burdeaux Grape, and
knowe a cup of neate Gascoygne wine, from wine of Orle-
ance: yea and peraduenture this also, to esteeme of the
pore as a pimple, to weare a velvet patch on their face, and
walke melancholy with their armes folded.

From Spaine what bringeth our Traueller: a scull-
cround hat of the fashion of an olde deepe porringer, a dimi-
nutiue Aldermans ruffe with woyle strings like the droo-
pings of a mans nose, a close-bellied dublet coming downe
with a peake behinde as farre as the crupper, and cut off be-
foze by the breast-boane like a partlet or neckercher, a wyde
payze of gascones which vngatherd would make a couple
of womens ryding kytles, huge hangers that haue halfe a
Cotte hyde in them, a Rapper that is lineally descended
from halfe a dozen Dukes at the least. Let his cloake be

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as long or as short as you will: if long, it is sac'd with Turkey grogeran raueld: if short, it hath a cape like a calues tung, and is not so deep in his whole length, nor hath so much cloth in it I will iustifie, as onely the standing cape of a Dutchmans cloake. I haue not yet toucht all, for hee hath in eyther shew as much taffaty for his tyings, as would serue for an ancient: which serueth him (if you will haue the mysterie of it) of the owne accord for a shew-rag. A soldior, and a b2aggart he is (thats concluded) he setteth skrouling, dancing on his toes with his hands vnder his sides. If you talke with him, hee makes a dish-cloath of his owne Countrey in comparison of Spaine; but if you b2ge him moze particularly wherein it exceeds, hee can giue no instance, but in Spaine they haue better bread than any we haue: when (poore hungry slaues) they may crumble it into water wel enough and make misons with it, for they haue not a good morsell of meate except it bee salt pilchers to eate with it al the yere long: and which is moze, they are poore beggers, and lye in foule straw every night.

Italy the paradise of the earth, and the Epicures heauen, how both it forme our yong master? It makes him to kisse his hand like an ape, cringe his neck like a starveling, and play at hee passe repasse come aloft when hee salutes a man. From thence he b2ings the art of atheisme, the art of epicurising, the art of whozing, the art of popsoning, the art of Sodomitrie. The onely propable good thing they haue to keepe vs from vtterly condemning it, is, that it maketh a man an excellent Courtier, a curious carpet knight: which is by interpretation, a fine close leacher, a glorious hypocrite. It is now a prouie note amongst the better sort of men, when they would set a singular markes or b2and on a notorious villaine, to say, he hath been in Italy.

With the Dane and the Dutch-man I will not encounter, for they are simple honest men, that with Danaus daughters do nothing but fill bottomles tubs, & wil be drunk & snort in the midst of dinner: he hurts himselfe onely that goes thether, hee cannot lightly be damnd, for the vintners, the b2ewers, the malt-men and ale-wines praye for him. Witche and pay, they will pray all day: scoze and bo2row, they will wysh him

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him much sorrowe. But lightly a man is nere the better for their prayers, for they commit al deadly sinne for the most part of them in mingling their drinke, the drinkers in the highest degree.

Why left I in such a necessary perswasive discourse? I am a banisht exile from my countrie, though nere linkt in consanguinitie to the best: an Earle borne by birth, but a begger now as thou seest. These many yeres in Italy haue I liu'd an outlaw. A while I had a liberall pension of the Pope, but that lasted not, for he continued not: one succeeded him in his chaire, that car'd neither for Englishmen nor his owne countrymen. Then was I driu'n to picke vp my crums amongst the Cardinals, to imploze the beneuolence & charitie of al the Dukes of Italy. whereby I haue since made a poore shift to liue, but so liue, as I with my selfe a thousand times dead.

Cum patriam amisi, tunc me periisse putato.

When I was banisht, thinks I caught my bane.

The sea is the native soyle to fishes, take fishes from the sea, they take no ioy nor thyle, but perish straight. So likewise the birds removed from the aire (the abode wherto they were borne) the beasts from the earth, and I from England. Can a lambe take delight to be suckled at the breasts of a she-wolfe? I am a lambe nourisht with the milke of wolues, one that with the Ethiopians inhabiting ouer against Meroc, feede on nothing but scorpions: vse is another nature, yet sometimes more contentiue, were nature restored to her kingdome from whence shee is excluded. Beloue mee, no aire, no bread, no fire, no water agree with a man, or dooth him anye good out of his owne countrey. Colde frutes neuer prosper in a hot soile, nor hot in a cold. Let no man for any transitorye pleasure sell away the inheritance of breathing he hath in the place where he was borne. Get thee home my yong lad, lay thy bones peaceably in the sepulcher of thy fathers, ware old in ouer-looking thy grounds, bee at hand to close the eyes of thy kinned. The diuell and I am desperate, he of being restored to heauen, I of being recalled home.

Here he held his peace and wept. I glad of any opportunitie of a full poynt to part from him, told him I took his coun-

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saile in woꝛth, what laye in mee to requitte in loue should not bee lacking. Some businesse that concerned mee highly cald mee away verie hastily, but another time I hop'd wee should meete. Merie hardly he let me goe, but I earnestly overpleading my occasions, at length he dismissed mee, told mee where his lodging was, and charged mee to visite him without excuse very often.

Heeres a stirre thought I to my selfe after I was set at libertie, that is woꝛse than an vpbꝛayding lesson after a bꝛif. thing: certainly if I had bethought mee like a rascall as I was, hee should haue had an auemarie of mee for his cynicke exhortation. God plagud mee for deriding such a graue fatherly aduertiser. List the woꝛst throw of ill luckes. Tracing vp and downe the City to seeke my Curtizan till the evening began to growe well in age, it soꝛtuned. the Element as if it had donke too much in the after-noon, poulded downe so profoundly, that I was soꝛt to creepe like one afraid of the Watch close vnder the pentises, where the cellar doze of a Jewes house called Zadoch (ouer which in my direct waye I did passe) beeing vnward on the in-side, ouer head and eares I fell into it as a man falls in a ship from the ozeloape into the holde: or as in an eartꝑ-quake the ground should open, and a blinde man come feeling pad pad ouer the open Gulph with his staffe, should stumble on sodaine into hell. Having woꝛne out the anguish of my fall a little with wallowing vp and downe, I cast vp myne eyes to see vnder what Continent I was: and loe, (O destenie) I sawe my Curtizans kissing verie louingly with a pꝛentise. My backe and my sides I had hurt with my fall, but now my head sweld & ake woꝛse than both. I was euen gathering winde to come vpon her with a full blast of contumely, when the Jewe (awakde with the noyse of my fall) came bustling downe the staires, and rayssing his other seruants, attached both the Curtizane and mee for breaking his house, and conspiring with his pꝛentise to rob him.

It was then the lawe in Rome, that if anie man had a felonaine in his hands, eyther by breaking into his house, or robbing him by the high way, hee might chuse whether he would

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would make him his bond-man, or hang him. Zadock (as all Jewes are conetous) casting with himselfe hee should haue no benefite by casting mee off the ladder, had another policie in his head: hee went to one Doctour Zacharie the popes physician, that was a Jewe and his Countrey-man likewise, and tolde him hee had the finest bargaine for him that might bee. It is not concealed from mee (sayth he) that the time of your accustomed yearly Anatomie is at hand, which it behoues you vnder forfeiture of the foundation of your Colledge verie carefully to provide for. The infection is great, and hardly will you get a sound bodie to deale vpon: you are my Countrey-man, therefore I come to you first. Bee it knowne vnto you, I haue a young man at home salne to me for my bond-man, of the age of eightene, of stature tall, streight limm'd, of as cleere a complexion as anie painters fancie can imagine: goe to, you are an honest man, and one of the scattered Childzen of Abraham, you shall haue him for five hundred crownes. Let mee see him quoth Doctour Zacharie, and I will giue you as much as another. Some hee sent for mee, pinnions and shackels I was transported alongst the streets: where passing vnder Iulianacs the Marques of Mantuaes wiues window, that was a lustie Bona Roba one of the popes concubines, as she had her casement halfe open, she lookt out and spide me. At the first sight she was enamored with my age and beardless face, that had in it no ill signe of physiognomie fall to setters: after me shee sent to know what I was, wherein I had offended, and whether I was going? My condicts resolved them all. Shee having receiued this answer, with a lustfull collachzimation lamenting my Jewish Remunire, that bodie and goods I should lyght into the hands of such a cursed generation, inuented the meanes of my release.

But first Ie tel you what betided me after I was brought to Doctour Zacharies. The purblinde Doctour put on his spectacles and lookt vpon mee: and when he had thoroughly viewd my face, he caused mee to bee stript naked, to feele and grope whether each lim were sound, and my skin not infected. Then hee pierst my arme to see how my blood ranne:

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Which assays and searchings ended, he gaue Zadoch hys full price and sent him away, then lockt mee vp in a darke chamber till the day of anatomic.

Of the cold sweating cares which I conceiued after I knew I should be cut like a French summer dublet. We thought already the blood began to gush out at my nose: if a flea on the arme had but bit me, I deemed the instrument had prickt me. Well, well, I maye scoffe at a Chyrotome turne, but theres no such ready waye to make a man a true Christian, as to perswade himselfe he is taken vp for an anatomic. I le depose I paid then more than I did in seauen yeare before. Not a drop of sweate trickled downe my bzeast and my sides, but I dreame it was a smooth edgde razor tenderly slicing down my bzeast and my sides. If any knockt at doore, I supposed it was the beadle of Surgeons Hall come for mee. In the night I dreame of nothing but Phlebotomie, bloody fluxes, incarnatiues, running blcers. I durst not let out a wheale for feare though it I should bleed to death. For meate in this distance I had plum-pozredge of purgations ministred mee one after another to clarifie my blood, that it should not lye cloddered in the flesh. For did he it so much for clarifying phisicke, as to saue charges. Miserable is that mouse that liues in a Whistions house, Tantalus liues not so hunger-starud in hell, as the doth there. Not the very crums that fall from his table, but Zachary swapes together, and of them mouldes vp a Manna. Of the ashie parings of his bzead, he would make conserue of chippings. Out of boanes after the meate was eaten off, hee would alchumize an oyle, that he sold for a shilling a dramme. His snot and spittle a hundred tymes he bath put ore: to hys Apothecarie for snowe water. Any Spider he would temper to perfect Withydate. His rheumatique eyes when he went in the winde, or rose early in a morning, dropt as cole allom water as you would request. He was dame Piggardize sole heyze and executoz.

A number of olde bookes had he eaten with the moathes and woymes, now all daye would not hee stude a bodkin, but picke those woymes and moathes out of his Libzarie, and of their mixture make a pzeeruatiue against the plague.

The

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The Ilcour out of his shoes he would woxing to make a sacred
balsamum against barrennes. Spare we him a line or two, &
looke backe to Iuliana, who consisted in hir thoughts about ma-
berie debatefully, aduentured to send a messenger to Doctor
Zacharie in her name, berie boldly to begme of him, and if she
might not beg me, to bry me with what sommes of monie so
euer he would aske. Zacharie is wisely and churlishly withstood
both her suites, and sayde if there were no more Christians on
the earth, he would thrust his incision knife into his throate-
boule immediatly. Which replie she taking at his hands most
despitefully, thought to crosse him over the shyns with as soze
an overwhart blow yet ere a moneth to an end. The pope (I
knowe not whether at her intreatie or no) within two dayes
after fell sicke, Doctor Zacharie was sent for to minister vnto
him, who seeing a little danger in his water, gaue him a gentle
confortatiue for the stomack, and desired those nere about him
to perswade his holynes to take some rest, and hee doubted not
but he would be forthwith well. Who should receiue this mild
phisicke of him but the concubine Iuliana his bitter enemye, she
beeing not vnprouided of strong poison at that instant, in the
popes outward chamber so mingled it, that when his grande
sublimitie taster came to relish it, he sunke downe stark dead
on the pauement. Herewith the pope cald Iuliana, and askt her
what strong concocted bryoth she had brought him. She kneled
downe on her knees, and sayd it was such as Zacharie the Jew
had deliuered her with his owne hands, and therefore if it mis-
liked his holines she craued pardon. The Pope without fur-
ther lifting into the matter, woulde haue had Zacharie and all
Jewes in Rome put to death, but shee hung about his knees,
& with crocodile teares desired him the sentence might bee le-
nified, and they bee all but banisht at most. For doctor Zachary
quoth she, your ten times vngateful phisition, since not with-
standing his trecherous intent, he hath much art, and many
soueraigne simples, oiles, gargarismes and sirups in his closet
and house that may stand your mightines in stead, I begge all
his goods onely for your beatitudes preservation and good.
This request at the first was sealed with a kisse, and the popes
edict without delaye proclaimed throughout Rome, namely,
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that all foze-skinne clippers whether male or female belonging to the old Iuris, should depart and anoyde vpon payne of hanging within twentie dayes after the date thereof.

Iuliana two dayes before the proclamation came out, sent her seruants to extend vpon Zacharies territories, his goods, his moveables, his chattels and his seruants: who persoumed their commission to the vtmost tittle, and left him not so much as master of an vj small case or a candle bore. It was about sixe a clocke in the euening, when those boot-balers entered: into my chamber they rusht, when I late leaning on my elbow, and my left hand vnder my side, deuising what a kinde of death it might be to be let bloud till a man dye. I cald to minde the assertion of some Philosophers, who said the soule was nothing but bloud: then thought I, what a filthy thing were this, if I should let my soule fall and breake his necke into a bason. I had but a pimple rose with heate in that part of the heyne where they vse to picke, and I fearfully misdeemed it was my soule searching for passage. He vpon it, a mans breath to bee let out a backe-dore, what a villanie it is? To dye bleeding is all one as if a man should dye pissing. God drinke makes god bloud, so that piss is nothing but bloud vnder age. Seneca and Lucan were lobcocks to chuse that death of all other: a pigge or a hogge or anie edible brute beast a cooke or a butcher deales vpon, dyes bleeding. To dye with a picke, wherewith the saintest hearted woman vnder heauen would not be kild, O God it is infamous.

In this meditation did they seaze vpon mee, in my cloake they muffled mee that no man might knowe mee, nor I see which waye I was carried. The first ground I toucht after I was out of Zacharies house, was the Countesse Iulianas chamber: little did I surmise that fortune reserved mee to so faire a death. I made no other reckoning all the while they had mee on their shoulders, but that I was on horse-backe to heauen, and carried to Church on a a beere, excluded for euer for drinking anie more ale or beere. Iuliana scornfully questioned them thus (as if I had falne into her hands beyond expectation), what proper apple-squire is this you bring so suspiciously into my chamber? what hath he done? or where had you
you

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you him? They answered likewise a farre of, that in one of Zacharies chambers they found him close prisoner, and thought themselves guiltie of the breach of her Ladships commandment if they should haue left him behinde. I quoth she, ye loue to bee double diligent, or thought peraduenture that I being a lone woman stood in neede of a lone. Bzing you me a pyncockes bearded boy (I knowe not whence hee is, nor whether he would) to call my name in suspence? I tell you, you haue abused me, and I can hardly brook it at your hands. You should haue lead him to the Magistrate, no commission receiued you of me but for his goods and his servants. They besought her to excuse their ouerwining error, it proceeded from a zealous care of their duetie, and no negligent default. But why should not I coniecture the worst quoth she? I tell you troth, I am halfe in a iealozie hee is some fantasticall amorous yoncker, who to dishonour me hath by'd you to this stratagem. It is a likely matter that such a man as Zacharie should make a prison of his house, and deale in matters of state. By your leave sir gallant, vnder locke and key shal you stay with me, till I haue enquired further of you, you shall be sifted thoroughly ere you and I part. Goe maide shew him to the further chamber at the ende of the gallerie that looke into the garden: you my trim pandars I pray garde him thether as you toke paines to bzing him hether. When you haue so so done, let the doores be made fast, and come your way. There was a wily wench had her liriop without hook, she was not so scke in her knackes and shifts: such are all women, not one of them but hath a cloak for the raine, and can please her husbands eyes as she list. Not too much of this madam Marques at once: wele step a little backe, and dilate what Zadoch the Jew did with my curtizan, after he had sold me to Zacharie. Of an ill tree I hope you are not so ill sighted in grafting to expect good frute: he was a Jew, & intreated her like a Jew. Under shadow of enforcing her to tell how much money she had of his prentice so to bee trayned to his cellar, hee stript her, and scourged her from top to toe fantara. Day by day hee digested his meate with leading her the measures. A diamond Delphinitall dzye leachour it was.

The

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The ballet of the whipper of late dayes here in England, was but a scoffe in comparison of him. All the colliers of Komfeyd, who hold their copozation by yarking the blind beare at Paris garden, were but bunglers to him, he had the right agilitie of the lash there were none of them could make the cord come aloft with a twange halfe like him. Marke the ending, marke the ending. The tribe of Juda is adiudged from Rome to bee fradging, they may no longer be lodged there, all the Albumazers, Kabisacks, Gedeons, Lebiths, Benhadads, Benrodans, Zedechiahs, Halies of them were banquerouts and turnd out of house and home. Zacharie came running to Zadochs in sack cloth and ashes presently after his goods were confiscated and and tolde him how he was serued, and what decre was coming out against them all. Descriptions stand by, heere is to be expessed the furie of Lucifer when he was turnd ouer heauen barre for a wrangler. There is a toad fish, which taken out of the water swels more than one would thinke his skin could holde, and bursts in his face that toucheth him. So swelled Zadoch, and was readie to burst out of his skinne, and throte his bowels like chaine-shot full at Zacharies face for bringing him such balefull tidings, his eyes glared and burnt bliewe like bzinkstone and aqua vitz set on fire in an egshell, his verie nose lightned glow-wormes, his teeth crasht and grated together, like the ioynts of a high building cracking and rocking like a cradle, when as a tempest takes her full butt against his broad side. He swoze, he curst, and said, these be they that worshippe that crucifixe God of Nazareth, heres the fruits of their new-found gospel, sulphur and gunpowder carry them all quick to Gehenna. I would spend my soule willingly, to haue this triple headed Dope with all his sin-absolued whoozes, and oile-greased priests bozne with a blacke sant on the deuills backes in proceSSION to the pit of perdition. Would I might sinke presently into y^e earth, so I might blow vp this Rome, this whoze of Babylon into the aire with my breath. If I must be banisht, if those heathen dogs will needes rob me of my goods, I wpll poison their springs and conduit heades, whence they receiue all their water round about the citie, I le tice all the yong children into my house that I can get, and cutting their throates
barrell

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barrell them vp in poudzing beere tubbes, and so send them to victuall the popes galleyes. Ere the officers come to extend, He bestowe a hundred pound on a doale of bread, which He cause to bee kneaded with Scorpions oyle that may kill more than the plague. He hire them that make their wafers o2 sacramentarie gods to mingle them after the same sort, so in the zeale of their superstitious religion, shall they languish and droup like carrion. If there be euer a blasphemous coniurer, that can call the windes from their brazen caues, and make the cloudes trauell befoze their time, He giue him the other hundred pounds to disturbe the heauens a whole weeke together with thunder and lightning, if it bee so2 nothing but to sowze all the wines in Rome, and turne them to vineger. As long as they haue either oyle o2 wine, this plague fades but pinglingly vpon them.

Zadoch, Zadoch said Docto2 Zacharie. (cutting him off) thou threateneſt the aire, whiles wee perish heere on earth. It is the Countesse Iuliana the Marquesse of Mantuaes wife and no other, that hath complotted our confusion. Aske not how, but insist in my words, and assist in reuenge.

As how, as how, said Zadoch, shugging and shubbing. More happie than the Patriarches were I, if crusht to death with the greatest torments Romes tyrants haue tribe, there might be quintessencd out of me one quart of precious poyson. I haue a leg with an issue, shall I cut it off, and from his fount of corruption extract a venome worse than anie serpents? If thou wilt, He goe to a house that is infected, where catching the plague, and hauing got a running soze vpon me, He come and deliuer her a supplication, and breathe vpon her. I know my breath stinkes so alreadie, that it is within halfe a degree of poyson. He pay her home if I perfect it with anie more putrifaction.

No, no brother Zadoch answered Zacharie, that is not the way. Canst thou prouide mee ere a bond-maide, indued with singular & diuine qualified beautie, whome as a present from our synagogue thou maist commend vnto her, desiring her to be good and gracious vnto vs.

I haue, I am so2 you quoth Zadoch: Diamante come forth.

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Heeres a wench (said he) of as cleare a skin as Susanna, shee hath not a wemme on her flesh from the soale of the fote to the crowne of the head: how thinke you master doctoꝝ, will shee not serue the turne?

She will, said Zacharie: and therefore I tell you what charge I would haue committed to her. But I care not if I disclose it onely to her. Said, (if thou beest a maid) come hether to mee, thou must be sent to the countesse of Mantuaes about a small peece of seruice, whereby being now a bond woman thou shalt purchase freedome, and gaine a large dowrie to thy marriage. I know thy master loues thee derely though hee will not let thee perceiue so much, hee intends after hee is dead to make thee his heire, for he hath no children: please him in that I shall instruct thee, and thou art made for euer. So it is, that the pope is farre out of liking with the countesse of Mantua his concubine, and hath put his trust in me his phisition to haue her quietly and charitably made away. Now I cannot intend it, for I haue manie cures in hand which call vpon me hourly: thou if thou beest plac'd with her as her waiting maid or cup-bearer, maist temper poyson with her bzoth, her meate, her drinke, her oyles, her sirrups, and neuer bee betwaid. I will not say whether the pope hath heard of thee, and thou maist come to bee his lemman in her place, if thou behaue thy selfe wisely. What, hast thou the heart to go thorough with it or no? Diamante deliberating with her selfe in what hellish seruitude she liu'd with the Jew, and that she had no likelihood to be releast of it, but fall from euill to worse if she omitted this opportunitie, resigned her selfe ouer wholly to be disposed and employd as seemed best vnto them. Whereupon, without further consultation, her wardop was richly rigd, her tongue smoth fil'd & new edg'd on the whetstone, her drugs deliuerd her, and presented she was by Zadoch her master to the countesse, together with some other slight new-fangles, as from the whole congregation, desiring her to stand their merciful mistresse, and sollicite the Pope for them, that through one mans ignorant offence were all generally in disgrace with him, and had incurred the cruell sentence of losse of goods and of banishment.

Juliana

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Iuliana liking wel the pretie round face of my black boye Diamante, gaue the Jew better countenance than otherwise she would haue done, and told him for her owne part shee was but a priuate woman, and could promise nothing confidently of his holines: for though he had suffered himselfe to bee ouer-ruled by her in some humors, yet in this that tuctht him so nerely, she knew not how he would be enclind: but what lay in her either to pacifie or perswade him they should be sure of, and so crau'd his absence.

His backe turnd, shee askt Diamante what countrey woman she was, what friends she had, and how shee fell into the hands of that Jew: She answered, that she was a Magnificoes daughter of Venice, stolne when she was yong from her friends, and sold to this Jew for a bond-woman, who (quoth she) hath vsde me so ieuishly and tyrannously, that for euer I must celebrate the memozie of this day, wherein I am deliuered from his iurisdiction. Alas (quoth she deep sighing) why did I enter into anie mention of my owne misusage? It will be thought that that which I am now to reueale, proceeds of mallice not truth. Madam, your life is sought by these Jewes that sue to you. Blush not, nor be troubled in your minde, for with warning I shall arme you against all their intentions. Thus and thus (quoth she) said doctoꝝ Zacharie vnto me, this popson he deliuered me. Befoze I was cald in to them, such and such consultation thzough the crenise of the doze fast lockt did I heare betwixt them. Denie it if they can, I will iustifie it: onely I beseech you to be fauozable Ladie vnto me, and let me not fall againe into the hands of those vipers.

Iuliana said little but thought unhappely, onely she thankte her for detecting it, and bowed though she were her bond woman to be a mother vnto her. The popson she toke of her, and set it vp charily on a shelve in her closet, thinking to keepe it for some good purposes: as for example, when I was consumed and woꝝne to the bones thzough her abuse, she would giue me but a dram too much, and pop mee into a priuie. So shee had seru'd some of her paramours ere that, and if God had not sent Diamante to be my redeemer, vndoubtedly I had drunke of the same cup.

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In a leafe of the o before was I lockt vp: heere in this page the foresaid goodwife Countesse comes to me, shee is no longer a iudge but a client. How she came, in what manner of attyre, with what immodest and vncomely words shee courted me, if I should take vpon me to enlarge, all modest eares would abhorre me. Some inconuenience she brought me too by her barlot-like behaviour, of which inough I can neuer repent me.

Let that bee forgiven and forgotten, fleshly delights could not make her slothfull or slumbring in reuenge against Zadoch. Shee set men about him to incense and egge him on in courses of discontentment, and other superuising espialls, to plye followe and spurre forward those suborning incensers. Both which playd their parts so, that Zadoch of his own nature violent, sware by the aike of Ichoua to set the whole citie on fire ere he went out of it. Zacharie after he had furnished the wench with the poyson, and giuen her instructions to goe to the diuell, durst not staye one houre for feare of disclosing, but fled to the Duke of Burbon that after sackt Rome, & there practised with his bastardship all the mischief against the pope and Rome that enuie could put into his minde. Zadoch was left behinde for the hangman. According to his oath, he provided balls of wilde fire in a readines, and laid traines of gunpowder in a hundred severall places of the citie to blow it vp, which hee had set fire too, as also bandiet his balls abroad, if his attendant spies had not taken him with y manner. To the straightest prison in Rome he was dragged, where from top to toe he was clogd with fetters and manacles. Iuliana informed the pope of Zacharies and his practise, Zachary was sought for, but non est inuentus, he was packt long before. Commandement was giuen, that Zadoch whom they had vnder hand and scale of locke and key, should be executed with all the fiery torments that could be found out.

Ile make short worke, for I am sure I haue wearied all my readers. To the execution place was he brought, where first and foremost he was stript, then on a sharpe yron stake fastened in the ground, had he his fundament pitcht, which stake ran vp along into his bodie like a spit, vnder his arme-boales
two

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two of like sort, a great bon-fire they made round about him, where with his flesh rosted not burnd: and euer as with the beate his skinne blistered, the fire was dzeane: side, and they basted him with a mixt:re of Aqua sortis, allam water, and Mercury sublimatum, wt ich smarted to the very soule of him, and searctt him to the marroire. Then did they scourge hys lacke parts so blistered and basted, with burning whips of red hot wire: his head they noynted ouer with pitch and tarre, and so enflamed it. To his pzioie members they tied streaming fier-wozkes, the skinne from the crest of his shculder, as also from his elbowes, his buckle bones, his knees, his ankles they pluckt and gnawed off with sparkling pincers: hys bzeast and his belly with scale skins they grated ouer, which as fast as they grated & rawed, one stowe ouer and lau'd with smithes cindzy water and aqua vitæ: his nayles they halfe rat-sed vp, and then vnder pzopt them with sharpe pzickes like a taylers shop windowe halfe open on a holiday: euerie one of his fingers they rent vp to the wzist: his toes they bzake off by the rootes, and let them still hang by a little skinne. In conclusion, they had a small oyle fire, such as men blow light bubbles of glasse with, and beginning at his feet, they let him lingringly burne vp lin me by linme, till his hart was consumed, and then he died. Triumph women, this was the end of the whipping Jew, contriued by a woman, in reuenge of two women, her selfe and her maid.

I haue told you oz should tell you in what credit Diamante grew with her mistres. Iuliana neuer dzeamed but she was an authenticall maide: she made her the chiefe of her bed chamber, she appointed none but her to looke into me, and serue me of such necessaries as I lacked. You must suppose when wee met there was no small reioycing on either part, much like the thze Brothers that went thze seuerall wayes to seeke their fortune, and at the yeres end at those thze crosse waies met againe, and told one another how they sped: so alter we had been long asunder saking our fortunes, we con mented one to another most kindly, what crosse haps had encountered vs. Here a few houres but the Countesse cloyd mee with her companie. It grew to this passe, that either I must finde out

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some miraculous meanes of escape, or drop away in a consumption, as one pin'd for lacke of meate: I was cleane spent and done, there was no hope of me.

The yere held on his course to domes day, when Saint Peters day dawned. That day is a day of supreme solemnitie in Rome, when the Embassadoz of Spaine comes and presents a milke white iennet to the pope, that knaues downe vppon his owne accoꝝd in token of obeisance and humilitie before him, and lets him stride on his backe as easie as one strides ouer a blocke: with this iennet is offered a rich purse of a yard length, full of Peter-pence. So musique that hath the gift of utterance, but sounds all the while: coapes and costly vestments decke the hoastest and beggerliest singing man, not a clarke or serten is absent, no no; a mule no; a sote-cloth belonging to anie cardinall, but attends on the taile of the triumph. The pope himselfe is borne in his pontificalibus thorough the Burgo (which is the chiefe stræte in Rome) to the Embassadoz's house to dinner, and thether resorts all the assembly: where if a Poet should spend all his life time in describing a banquet, he could not feast his auditoꝝs halfe so wel with words, as he doth his guests with iunkets.

To this feast Iuliana addrest her selfe like an Angell: in a littour of græne needle-woꝝke wrought like an arboꝝ, and open on euerie side was she borne by foure men, hidden vnder cloth rough plushed and woven like eglantine and wood-bine. At the foure coꝝners it was topt with foure round chrystall cages of fightingales. For sote men, on either side of her went foure virgins clad in lawne, with lutes in their hands playing. Next before her two and two in order, a hundred pages in lutes of white cypresse, and long horse-mens coates of cloth of siluer: who being all in white, aduanced euery one of them her picture, enclosed in a white round scræne of feathers, such as is carried ouer great Princesses heads when they ride in summer, to keepe them from the beate of the sun. Before the went a foure-scoꝝe bead women she maintaind in græne gownes, scattrring strowing beards and floures. After her followed the blinde, the halt and the lame sumptuously appareiled like Lords: and thus past she on to Saint Peters.

Interca

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Interea quid agitur domi, how I sit at home all this while. My curtizan is left my keeper, the keyes are committed vnto her, she is mistress fac totum. Against our countesse we conspire, packe vp all her iewels, plate, money that was extant, and to the water side send them: to conclude, courageously rob her, and run away. Quid non auri sacra fames? What desame will not golde salue. Wee mistooke himselfe that invented the proverbe, Dimicandum est pro aris & focis: for it should haue been pro auro & fama: not for altares and fires we must contend, but for gold and fame.

Dares no wind could not stirre no blow faster, than we toyld out of Tiber; a number of good fellows would giue size ace and the dice that with as little toyle they could leane Wyburne behinde them. Out of ken we were ere the Countesse came from the feast. When she returned and found her house not so much peised as it was wont, her chests her closets and her cupboards broke open to take aire, and that both I and my keeper was missing: then she fared like a franticke Bacchinall, she stampd, she star'd, she beate her head against the walls, scratcht her face, bit her fingers, and strewd all the chamber with her haire. None of her seruants durst stay in her sight, but she beate them out in heapes, and bad them goe sake search they knew not where, and hang themselves, and neuer looke her in the face moze, if they did not hunt vs out. After her furie had reasonably spent it selfe, her bzeast began to swell with the mother, caused by her former fretting & chafing, and she grew verie ill at ease. Whereuppon she knockt for one of her maids, and bad her run into her closet, and fetch her a little glasse that stood on the upper shelve, wherein there was spiritus vini. The maid went, & mistaking took the glasse of poyson which Diamante had giu'n her, and she kept in store for me. Comming with it as fast as her legs could carrie her, her mistress at her returne was in a swoond, and lay for dead on the floze, wherat she shokt out, and fel a rubbing & chafing her very busily. When that would not serue, she took a keye and opened her mouth, and hauing heard that spiritus vini was a thing of mightie operation, able to call a man from death to life, shee took the poyson, and verely thinking it
to

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to be spiritus vini (such as she was sent for) powrd a large quantitie of it into her throte, and tigd on her backe to digest it. It reui'd her with a merrie bengea ice, for it kilde her outright: only she awakend and lift vp her hands, but spake nere a word. Then was the maid in her grandames beanes, and knew not what shoulde become of her: I heard the Pope tooke pitie on her, and because her trespassse was not voluntary but chance-medly, he assigned her no other punishment but this, to drinke out the rest of the popson in the glasse that was left, and so goe scot-free. The carelesse of these mischances, helde on our flight, and saw no man come after vs but we thought had pursued vs. At those they say mistakes euerie bush for a trueman, the winde ratled not in anie bush by the way as I rode, but I straight drew my rapier. To Bologna with a merrie gale weeposted, where wee lodged our selues in a blinde stræte out of the way, and kept secret manie dayes: but when we perceiued we saild in the hauen, that the winde was layd, and no alarm made after vs, we boldly came abroad: & one day hearing of a moze desperat murder than Cayn that was to be erecuted, we followed the multitude, and grutcht not to lend him our eyes at his last parting.

Who shoulde it bee but one Cutwolfe, a wearish dwardish wrighten sac'd cobbler, brother to Bartoll the Italian, that was confederate with Esdras of Granado, and at that time stole away my curtizan, when he rauisht Heraclide.

It is not so naturall for me to epitomize his impietie, as to heare him in his owne person speake vppon the wheele where he was to suffer.

Prepare your eares and your teares, for neuer till this thrust I anie tragicall matter vpon you. Strange and wonderfull are Gods iudgements, heere shine they in their glory. Chast Heraclide, thy blood is laid vp in heauens treasure, not one drop of it was lost, but lent out to vsurie: water powrd forth sinkes downe quietly into the earth, but blood spilt on the ground sprinkles vp to the firmament. Murder is wide-mouthed, and will not let God rest till he grant reuenge. Not onely the blood of the slaughtred innocent but the soule ascendeth to his throne, and there cries out & exclames for iustice
and

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and recompence. Guiltles soules that liue euerie boure subiect to violence, and with your despairing feares do much empaire Gods prouidence: fasten your eyes on this spectacle that will adde to your faith. Referre all your oppressions afflictions and iniuries to the even ballanced eye of the Almighty, bee it is, that when your patience sleepeth, will bee most exceeding mindfull of you.

This is but a glose vpon the text: thus Cutwolfe begins his insulting oration.

Open and people that haue made holy-daie to behold my pained flesh toile on the wheele. Expect not of me a whining penitent slaue, that shal do nothing but crie and saie his prayers, and so be crucht in peeces. My bodie is little, but my minde is as great as a Giants: the soule which is in mee, is the verie soule of Iulius Cesar by reuerision. My name is Cutwolfe, neither better nor worse by occupation, than a poore cobbler of Verona, cobblers are men and kings are no more. The occasion of my comming hether at this present, is to haue a few of my bones broken (as we are all bozne to die) for being the death of the Emperour of homicides Esdras of Granado. About two yeares since in the strêtes of Rome he slew the onely and eldest brother I had named Bartoll, in quarrelling about a curtizan. The newes brought to me as I was sitting in my shop vnder a stall knocking in of tacks, I think I raised by my bziistles, sold pitch-aule, sponge, blacking tub, and punching yron, bought mee rapier and pistoll, and to goe I went. Twentie months together I pursued him, from Rome to Naples, from Naples to Caiete passing ouer the riuer, from Caiete to Syenna, from Syenna to Florence, from Florence to Parma, from Parma to Pauia, from Pauia to Syon, from Syon to Geneua, from Geneua backe againe towards Rome: where in the way it was my chance to meet him in the nicks here at Bologna, as I will tell you how. I saw a great fray in the strêtes as I past along, and manie swords walking, whereupon drawing nêrer, and enquiring who they were, answer was returned mee it was that notable Bandetto Esdras of Granado. So I was tickled in the spleene with that word, my heart hopt & daunst, my elbows ticht, my fingers friskt,

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I wist not what should become of my selfe, nor knew what I did for ioy. The fray parted. I thought it not convenient to single him out (being a sturdy knaue) in the street, but to stay till I had got him at more aduantage. To his lodging I dogged him, lay at the doore all night where hee entred, for feare hee should giue me the slip anie way. Betimes in the morning I rung the bell and crau'd to speake with him: by to his chamber doore I was brought, where knocking, hee rose in his shirt and let me in, and when he was entred, had me lock the doore and declare my arrant, and so hee slept to bed againe.

Harrie this quoth I is my arrant. Thy name is Esdras of Granado, is it not? Most treacherously thou liest at my brother Bartoll about two yeres agoe in the streets of Rome: his death am I come to reuenge. In quest of thee ever since aboue three thousand miles haue I traualld. I haue begd to maintaine me the better part of the waye, onely because I would intermit no time from my pursute in going backe for monie. Now haue I got thee naked in my power, die thou shalt, though my mother and my grandmother dying did intreate for thee. I haue promist the diuell thy soule within this houre, breake my word I will not, in thy breast I intend to burie a bullet. Stirre not, quinch not, make no noyse: for if thou dost it will be worse for thee.

Quoth Esdras, what ener thou bee at whose mercie I lye, spare me, and I wil giue thee as much gold as thou wilt aske. Put me to anie paines my life reserued, and I willingly will sustaine them: cut off my armes and legs, and leane me as a lazer to some loathsome spittle, where I may but liue a yere to pray and repent me. For thy brothers death the despayre of minde that hath ever since haunted mee, the guiltie gnawing worme of conscience I feele may bee sufficient penance. Thou canst not send me to such a hell, as already there is in my hart. To dispatch me presently is no reuenge, it wil soon be forgotten: let me dye a lingring death, it will be remembered a great deale longer. A lingring death maye auaille my soule, but it is the illest of ills that can befortune my bodie. For my soules health I beg my bodies torment: bee not thou a diuell to torment my soule, and send me to eternall damnation.

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tion. Thy ouer-hanging sword hides heauen from my sight, I dare not looke vp, least I embrace my death's wound vnwares: I cannot pray to God, and plead to thee both at once. Ay mee, already I see my life buried in the wrinkles of thy browes: say but I shall live, though thou meanest to kill me. Nothing confounds like to suddaine terror, it thrusts enerie sense out of office. Poyson wraapt vp in sugred pills is but halfe a poyson: the feare of deaths looks are moze terrible than his stroke. The whilest I viewe death, my faith is deaded: where a mans feare is, there his heart is. Feare neuer engenders hope: how can I hope that heauens father will saue mee from the hell everlasting, when he giues me o-ner to the hell of thy furie.

Heraclide, now thinke I on thy teares sowne in the dust, (thy teares, that my bloudie minde made barraine). In re-nenge of thee, God hardens this mans heart against mee: yet I did not slaughter thee, though hundreds else my hand hath brought to the shambles. Gentle sir, learne of mee what it is to clog your conscience with murder, to haue your dreames, your sleepes, your solitarie walkes troubled and disquieted with murther. Your shadowe by daye will af-fright you, you will not see a weapon vnheathd, but imme-diatly you will imagine it is predestinate for your destruc-tion.

This murder is a house deuided within it selfe: it sub-orynes a mans owne soule to informe against him: his soule (beeing his accuser) brings forth his two eyes as witnesses agaynst him: and the least eye witnesse is vnrefutable. Plucke out my eyes if thou wilt, and deprive my trayterous soule of her two best witnesses. Digge out my blasphemous tongue with thy dagger, both tongue and eyes will I gladly forgoe, to haue a little moze time to thinke on my iour-ney to heauen.

Deferre a while thy resolution. I am not at peace with the world, for euen but yesterdaye I fought, and in my furie threatened further vengeance: had I face to face askt for-giuenesse, I should thinke halfe my sinnes were forgiven. A hundred Diuels haunt mee daily for my horrible murders:

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the diuells when I dye will be loath to goe to hell with mee, for they desir'd of Christ he would not send them to hell befoze their time: if they goe not to hell, into thæ they will goe, and hideously bere thæ for turning them out of their habitation. Wounds I contemne, life I prize light, it is another worlds tranquillitie which makes me so timorous: euermlasting damnation, euermlasting howling and lamentation. It is not from death I request thæ to deliuer me, but from this terroz of torments eternitie. Thy bzothers bodie onely I pierst vnaduisedly, his soule meant I no harme too at all: my bodie & soule both shalt thou cast away quite, if thou doost at this instant what thou maist. Spare me, spare me I besæch thæ: by thy owne soules saluation I desire thæ, seeke not my soules vtter perdition: in destroying me, thou destroyest thy selfe and me. Eagerly I replide after his long suppliant ozation; Though I knewe God would neuer haue mercie on mæ except I had mercie on thæ, yet of thæ no mercie would I haue. Reuenge in our tragedies continually is raised from hell: of hell doo I esteeme better than heauen, if it affoord me reuenge. There is no heauen but reuenge. I tell thæ, I would not haue undertaken so much toyle to gaine heauen, as I haue done in pursuing thæ for reuenge. Diuine reuenge, of which (as of the ioies aboue) there is no fulnes or satietie. Loke how my feete are blistered with following thæ from place to place. I haue riken my throat with ouerstraining it to curse thæ. I haue grownd my teeth to powder with grating and grinding them together for anger, when anie hath nam'd thæ. My tongue with vaine threats is holne, and wæren too big for my mouth. My eyes haue bzoken their strings with staring and looking ghastly, as I stood deuising how to frame or set my countenance when I met thæ. I haue nere spent my strength in imaginarie acting on stone wals, what I determined to execute on thæ. Entreate not, a miracle maye not repzue thæ: villaine, thus march I with my blade into thy bowels.

Stay, stay exclaimed Esdras, and heare mee but one word further. Though neither for God nor man thou carest, but placest thy whole felicitie in murder, yet of thy felicitie learne how to make a greater felicitie. Respite me a little from thy
swords

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Swordes poynt, and set mee about some execrable enterprize, that may subuert the whole state of Chzistendome, and make all mens eares tingle that heare of it. Commaund me to cut all my kindreds throates, to burne men women and children in their beds in millions, by firing their Cities at midnight. Be it Pope, Emperour or Turke that displeaseth thee, he shal not bzeath on the earth. For thy sake will I sweare and forswear, renounce my baptisme, and all the interest I haue in any other sacrament. Onely let me liue how miserable soeuer, be it in a dungeon amongst toades, serpents and adders, or set vp to the necke in dung. No paines I will refuse how euer proroged, to haue a little respite to purifie my spirit: ob heare me, heare me, and thou canst not be hardened against me.

At this his importunitie I paused a little, not as retyring from my weakful resolution, but going back to gather moze forces of vengeance. With my selfe I deuised how to plague him double for his base minde. My thoughts traueled in quest of some notable netwe Italionisme, whose murtherous platforme might not onely extend on his bodie, but his soule also. The ground worke of it was this. That whereas he had promised for my sake to sweare and forswear, and commit Iulian-like violence on the highest scales of religion: if he would but thus farre satisfie me he should bee dismiss from my furie. First and foremost he should renounce God and his lawes, and vtterly disclaime the whole title or interest he had in anie covenant of saluation. Next he should curse him to his face, as Iob was willed by his wife, and write an absolute firme obligation of his soule to the diuell, without condition or exception. Thirdly and lastly (hauing done this), hee should praye to God seruently neuer to haue mercie vppen him, or pardon him. Scarce had I propounded these articles vnto him, but he was beginning his blasphemous abirations. I wonder the earth opened not and swallowed vs both, hearing the bold tearmes he blasted forth in contempt of Chzistianitie: Heauen hath thundred when halfe lesse contumelies against it haue been vttered. Able they were to raise Saints and Martirs from their graues, and plucke Chzist himselfe from the right hand of his father. My ioints trembled & quak

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with attending them, my haire stood vp right, & my hart was turned wholly to fire. So affectionately and zealously did hee giue himself ouer to infidelitie, as if sathan had gotten the vpper hand of our high Maker. The beyne in his left hand that is deriued from his heart with no faint blow he pierd, & with the blood that flowd from it, writ a full obligation of his soule to the diuell: yea, more earnestly he praid vnto God neuer to forgive it his soule, than manie Christians doe to saue theyr soules. These fearfull ceremonies brought to an end, I had him ope his mouth and gape wide. He did so (as what wil not slaues doe for feare). Therewith made I no more adw, but shot him full into the throat with my pistol: no more spake he after, so did I shote him that he might neuer speak after, or repent him. His body being dead lookd as blacke as a toad: the diuell presently bzanded it for his owne. This is the fault that hath called me hether. No true Italian but will honoꝛ me for it. Reuenge is the glory of Armes, and the highest performance of valure: reuenge is whatsoeuer wee call law or iustice. The farther we wade in reuenge, the nerer come we to the throne of the Almighty. To his scepter it is properly ascribed, his scepter he lends vnto man, when he lets one man scourge another. All true Italians imitate mee, in reuenging constantly, and dying valiantly. Hangman to thy taske, for I am readie for the vtmost of thy rigoꝛ. Herewith all the people (outragiouly incensed) with one conioyned out-crye yelled mainely, Away with him, away with him, Executioner torture him, teare him, or we will teare thee in peeces if thou spare him.

The executioner needed no exhortation herevnto, for of his owne nature was he backster good enough: old & excellent hee was at a bone-ache. At the first chop with his wood-knife would he fish for a mans heart, and fetch it out as easily as a plum from the bottome of a porredge pot. Hee would cracke neckes as fast as a cooke crackes egges: a fidler cannot turne his pin so soone, as he would turn a man of the ladder. Brauely did hee drum on this Cutwolves bones, not breaking them outright, but like a sadler knocking in of tacks, tarring on them quaueringly with his hammer a great while together. No ioynt about him but with a hatchet he had for the nonce, he
disioyn.

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Disoynted halfe, and then with boyling lead souldzed vp the wounds from bleeding. His tongue he puld out, least he should blaspheme in his torment: venomous stinging wormes bee thrust into his eares, to keepe his head ravingly occupied: with cankers scrused to peeces hee rubb his mouth and his gums. No lim of his but was lingringly splinterd in shivers. In this horroz left they him on the wheele as in hel: where yet living, hee might behold his flesh legacied amongst the soules of the aire. Unsearchable is the booke of our destinies. One murder begetteth another: was neuer yet blood-shed barrain from the beginning of the world to this day. Fortifiedly abietted and danted was I with this trunculent tragedie of Curwolfe and Esdras. To such straight life did it thence forward incite me, that ere I went out of Bologna I married my curtizane, periozmed manie almes daies; and hasted so fast out of the Sodom of Italy that within fortie daies I arrived at the King of Englands Campe twixt Ardes and Guines in France: where he with great triumphes met and entertained the Emperour and the French King, and feasted manie dayes. And so as my Storie began with the King at Turnay and Turwin, I thinke mete heere to end it with the King at Ardes & Guines. All the conclusiue Epilogue I will make is this; that if here-in I haue pleased any, it shall animate me to more paynes in this kinde. Otherwise I will sweare vpon an English Chronicle, neuer to bee out-lanvisd Chronicker more while I liue. Farewell as manie as wish me well. June 27. 1593.

FINIS.